



Rec'd 27th 1854.

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# The Leader.

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—*Humboldt's Cosmos*.

NEWS OF THE WEEK—	PAGE
Parliament of the Week .....	410
Supplemental Estimates .....	412
Continental Notes .....	412
The British Army in Turkey .....	413
The Marquis of Anglesey .....	414
Death of James Montgomery .....	414
Public Dinners .....	415
The Friends of Poland .....	415
May Meetings .....	416

PUBLIC AFFAIRS—	
Survey of the War .....	419
Diggings for Mr. Gladstone .....	420
The Russian Hedgehog .....	420
Dissent in the Universities .....	421
England Self-Accusing .....	422

## Contents.

The Lancashire Labour-Battle ..	416
Collisions at Sea .....	417
The Bill System .....	418
Miscellaneous .....	418

## LITERATURE—

Summary .....	424
The Constitution of the United States .....	425
Talfourd's Last Vacation Ramble .....	426
Nanette and Her Lovers .....	427

The London Pulpit .....	428
Books on our Table .....	428
<b>THE ARTS—</b>	
The Royal Academy .....	428
<b>BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS...</b>	
<b>COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—</b>	
City Intelligence, Markets, Advertisements, &c.....	429-432

VOL. V. No. 215.]

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1854.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.

## News of the Week.

ODESSA, notwithstanding the contradiction of Russia, has been bombarded; Russian blood has been drawn by the arms of the allied forces, passion has been engaged on both sides, and a "material" guarantee has been taken on both sides for the active prosecution of the contest. A war-steamer had been sent to the port, in order to bring away the British and French residents; a boat approached the shore with a flag of truce; it was repulsed, and in its way outwards it was followed by seven shots from the guns of the fort. The little craft regained the steamer, which returned to the fleet, and the fleet soon brought English guns to bear upon the fort and town. Forts were dismantled; the war-shipping had undergone a ten hours' fall of the iron manna, but endeavours were made to spare private property and neutral ships.

It appears likely that some event, also advantageous to the Turks, has occurred in the neighbourhood of Silistria. The telegraph, indeed, reports a "great" victory of 70,000 Turks advancing to the destruction of the Russians, and driving them across the river with immense loss; but, as we have shown in a separate paper, there is great reason to doubt the possibility of these movements over the ground in question; and we come down to the conclusion, that one more in the series of Turkish successes has been disproportionately magnified in the earlier reports.

There are also other rumours more or less improbable, which would assign the drawing of blood to an earlier date; such, for instance, as the tale of English and French officers landing at Kostendje, and the extension of their sporting from the legitimate quarry to live Russians who happened to cross their guns. But here, we take it, fiction is sporting with fact.

A more agreeable doubt dawns over the gloomy descriptions of the state in which British soldiers were lodged at Gallipoli, without bread, hospitals, or any other pleasures. The fact appears to be, that, while some part of the complaint is still unanswered, provisions are cheap, the lodging is as good as the Turkish standard admits,—and perhaps that is not wonderfully below the standard of lodging for many a working man, nor for many a soldier in certain English barracks even ten years ago; and as to the reception of the troops, it

appears to have been most friendly. Our grenadiers were evidently a perfect revelation to the Turks, altogether dangerous for the stability of the Koran. It is a new idea in the Turkish mind, that men should move together in great bodies with freedom and precision. The same wonder struck the Persians, when Sir John Malcolm's body-guard was drilled at Tehran:—"They must," cried one of the spectators, seeing how bodies, legs, hands, and eyes moved in unison, "have been born all on one day!" "Impossible," cried another, "for they must all have had one father." The Turk desires to be drilled and regimented. French officers have begun to number the houses in their quarter; and the law which forbids numbering of the people totters to its foundations. Such unexpected missionaries find.

Greece has proved its thorough sympathy with Russia, by emulating that great power in the force and extent of its lying. The Foreign Minister, M. Parkos, has sent a circular to the Greek diplomats at foreign courts, making an appeal to the nations against the "unjust" charges of Turkey—representing that Greece has only been the sufferer under Turkish invasion, while the only check to her control of Greeks in their Christian impatience to attack the Mussulman has arisen from regard for internal liberties. A more barefaced composition of sneaking hypocrisy was never laid before the world—except in the recent instance of Nicholas; whose insolence, however, is less beggarly than this Greek tale. Its falsehood has been exposed by Mr. Wyse and Mr. Forth Rouen, the British and Foreign Ministers; whose refutation will have to be followed up by a practical correction of Greece in action.

The Emperor of Austria is married. Marriage is a great event in the life even of an Emperor; and coming with other circumstances, it may coerce the Caesar of Vienna into a new life. He is compelled to an alliance with comparatively constitutional Governments for a decided constitutional course; obliged to take a position antagonistic to his great protector, Russia, he is forced to lean more upon the less absolute powers, and upon the support of his own subjects. While policy forces him to this course, good feeling, aroused at a critical moment of his life, induced him to attempt more lenient measures, and it may be said more faithful measures, with Italy and Hungary. The rejoicings which celebrate his marriage may mark a happy turn in his life.

At home the most important subject has been Mr. Gladstone's vicissitudes in the money world. The proposals for a loan of six millions on Exchequer Bonds were to be received on the 2nd instant: very few came in, however, even for series A; while for series B and C there were almost no tenders. The income-tax, just then going through its last stages in the House of Lords, furnished the occasion for Opposition Peers, or discontented Peers, to come out with wonderful insinuations, that Mr. Gladstone was reducing the Exchequer to bankruptcy, risking the payment of dividends at the Bank, and embarking on a course "dangerous" to this country! The public did not rightly appreciate the opportunity afforded by the Exchequer Bonds; regular moneyed men dislike the departure from routine, and wish to have great contracts on which they might speculate with greater advantage; and uninitiated folks were timid in taking up the new loan. The offers sent in showed that the public and Mr. Gladstone had nearly the same view as to the value of the bonds. The tenders ranged between 98*l.* and 100*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* for the 100*l.*, and Mr. Gladstone's sealed price had pledged him to take the loans at 98*l.* 15*s.* This fact was stated to the City on Wednesday, and there the matter rests; Mr. Gladstone promising a financial statement on Monday.

Ministers have sustained a virtual defeat on their Railway Bill. We have already stated that the railway interest had organised itself to prevent the passing of the Bill, on the plea that it authorised an arbitrary interference by the Board of Trade with the time-tables, rates of speed, and charges upon railways. Railway directors possess considerable influence in boroughs, and honourable members dare not stand independent of constituents so active, influential, and wealthy. Hence, as in the case of the Reform Bill, a desperate resistance to Ministers was getting up. Foreseeing this, Mr. Cardwell has, in fact, withdrawn his original bill, although that incorporated only some of the recommendations by the select committee on the subject; and he has introduced a new one. The form of doing so was, to move that the bill be committed *pro forma*, in order that "amendments" might be introduced. It now consists only in a measure to secure the forwarding of passengers and goods, and to give summary power of enforcing that compilation, leaving many other securities, especially those for life and limb, apparently untouched.



we understand from Mr. Cardwell's explanation; but we shall have an opportunity of surveying the measure hereafter. It appears that Ministers and Parliament are not strong enough to protect the property of shareholders, and the pockets of travellers, or the life and limb of the public, against the "right" which the railway companies claim to dispose of those valuables at pleasure.

The Oxford University Bill has been painfully making way in committee. Several details have been discussed—whether or not the constituency should consist of the whole convocation, or only resident members and officers; whether the representative members of the council should be elected by the constituency or by sections of the constituents,—the heads electing the representative heads, the professors the representative professors, and so on. On the last point Mr. Walpole defeated the Government, carrying the sectional form by a narrow majority. It would be a great stretch of charity to suppose that these amendments were advanced entirely as improvements on the measure. Evidently the great object is to arrest the bill; and some who are quite sincere in desiring if possible to obtain a larger measure of reform do not see how they are risking the entire bill by thus falling in with the plans of those whose objects is to defeat the reform and to injure the Ministry. It is said, as a reproach to some of the Opposition, that their measure has introduced confusion into the clause and its context; but they are not likely to be very much vexed at being told that they have thrown back to the Ministers a skein of enactments which it would be difficult to disentangle.

The strike at Preston has come to an abrupt termination. At the public meeting, on Sunday, it was found that the receipts, instead of ranging about 3000*l.*, fell short of 500*l.* The delegates held a private meeting, and subsequently issued a notice announcing to their constituents that it was necessary to close the contest. We do not, of course, entirely agree with the delegates in their view of the causes which they allege for this result; but this subject we defer for a separate consideration. In the mean while, let us observe that, by preventing an amicable close, by filling the town with workmen brought from a distance, the masters have at once created a great mass of misery amongst those who are now left destitute, have thrown upon the community a burden, of which the ratepayers must take their share, and have lodged the seed of a bad feeling which will deservedly visit them with odium hereafter. We say that the masters are responsible for this, since the strike would not have taken place if their order had habitually been frank with the men; it might have been brought to a close if they had been willing to arrange the dispute; and even at the eleventh hour it would have been still amicably settled by disinterested parties, if the masters had not desired that it should leave behind upon the men the bitterness of defeat.

The supplemental estimates, which came before the House of Commons last night, have been treated by public writers as a bugbear, calculated to frighten the public. It is not the amount that will do so; that would be taken rather as an earnest that Government was proceeding heartily in the work. The total amount is just short of 5,600,000*l.*; but as it includes pay for 5000 additional seamen, and an increase of 14,800 men to the army, it would not be grudged, if the public would be quite sure that the sum of 3,000,000*l.* for the transport of men and horses were not in excess. We do not think it is; but it is the payments to the dealer and contractor class that will be viewed with most jealousy, and ought to be most closely watched. Unfortunately all contract interests are strong in Parliament; and it seems likely to continue strong so long as the nation allows its political action to remain in abeyance.

#### PARLIAMENT OF THE WEEK.

This week opened with two heavy debates—one in each house; that in the **Lords**, ostensibly on the Income Tax Bill, was retrospective, and tended to no practical purpose; that in the Commons carried the Oxford University Reform Bill onward a short stage, and landed it in confusion, Government sustaining a defeat by the way.

Taking first the Oxford Bill as having more vital interest we have to record its progress in committee. Mr. Horsman began the fray. The first clause appoints as commissioners to carry out the bill, the Bishop of Ripon, the Earl of Ellesmere, Sir John Audry, Mr. Justice Coleridge, and the Reverend Mr. Johnson, Dean of Wells.

Mr. Horsman moved that the nomination of these gentlemen be postponed, partly on the ground that the commission should be appointed after the powers to be intrusted to it have been defined; and partly because all the commissioners were not in a condition—one a judge, another a bishop—to fulfil the duties imposed, and also because Sir John Audry is opposed to appropriating college revenues for professional endowments.

To this it was replied by Lord JOHN RUSSELL and Mr. GLADSTONE that the bill conferred extensive powers; and it would not be wise to grant the powers until you know who is to wield them; that the gentlemen selected are in every way qualified and ready to undertake the duties; and that Sir John Audry, for instance, is not opposed to the provisions of the bill, as hinted by Mr. Horsman.

The opposition was, however, supported by Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, Mr. BLACKETT, Mr. VERNON SMITH, and Mr. DISRAELI. But on a division Mr. Horsman's amendment was rejected by 169 to 141—not too great a majority.

The next point involving a conflict was singularly debated; Mr. Disraeli, who disapproves of the bill altogether, being the tactician.

On clause 4, empowering the commissioners to require the production by any officer of the University of any documents or accounts relating to such university, and any information relating to the revenues, statutes, usages, or practices thereof respectively; and providing that no oath which might be taken by any such officer should be pleadable in bar of any authorities of the said commissioners, Sir W. HEATHCOTE proposed to strike out all the words after the word "respectively" and to substitute the following:—"And it shall be the duty of such officer or member to produce and furnish the same, any prohibition or impediment now existing or arising in or by reason of any of the statutes thereof respectively notwithstanding."

Mr. ROUNDELL PALMER declared that these oaths had no force where they came in contact with the law of the land. Mr. HENLEY was extremely indignant at what he called the dishonesty of Sir William Heathcote in calling an oath an "impediment." Government said that a man having taken an oath must break it; that is intelligible. If Sir William meant that men were to break their oaths let him say so. In this view Mr. Gladstone agreed; and insisted that the power to obtain the required information must be had, and that Parliament has a right to get it. Oaths taken by officers are essentially limited by the chief power of the state.

Here Mr. DISRAELI stepped in, innocently suggesting that the difficulty would be avoided by letting the clause terminate at the word respectively. Mr. ROUNDELL PALMER fell into the trap and assented; as did subsequently Sir W. Heathcote; but it did not, of course, escape the sharp eyes of the Solicitor-General that the amendment would frustrate the object of the bill, by taking away the power of compelling the production of what is required. So the committee thought, also, for they negatived Mr. Disraeli's amendment by 118 to 69.

But a far more serious contest now began. Clause 6, providing for the composition of the Hebdomadal Council, runs thus:—

"The hebdomadal council shall consist of the Vice-Chancellor, the proctors, six heads of colleges or halls, elected by the congregation hereinafter mentioned of the said university, and one other head appointed by the Chancellor of the university; six professors of the university, elected by the congregation hereinafter described, and one other such professor appointed by the Chancellor, and one other such professor separately elected by the congregation, who shall be always chosen from among the professors of theology; together with six members of convocation, of not less than five years' standing, elected by the congregation."

Mr. WALPOLE proposed an amendment, the effect of which was that seven heads should be elected from among themselves; intending to follow it up by applying the principle of what is called "sectional election" to the whole council. Mr. GLADSTONE earnestly opposed the change. He said that if the council was elected by three cliques, the members would look after the interests of their clique instead of those of the University. Government desired, for instance, to give the professors a substantial position in the University; but if professors

elected professors, they would only attend to the interests of professors. Oxford was decidedly opposed to the sectional plan. Sir JOHN PAKINGTON believed the contrary. He was for sectional election. Mr. HORSMAN took the same side, though not for the same reason: he opposes the tutorial element. But it was Mr. HENLEY who put the matter in the most striking light. He distinctly declared that under the present clause the tutors, who form the clerical element, would have the command of the elections to the council, and it is not for the benefit of the University to place its government in the hands of persons "liable to be swayed by any religious tenet which happens at the moment to be in favour. I am convinced," he continued, "that unless you guard against that clerical element, you will never secure for the University that independent governing body which you desire; and which would be free from that want of charity for others which, in its extra zeal, the clerical body always shows towards all who do not row in the same boat with them-selves."

Mr. ROBERT LOWE and Sir WILLIAM HEATHCOTE argued strongly in favour of the Government proposition, but on a division Ministers were defeated by 162 to 149!

Of course after this the words empowering the Chancellor to nominate a member to the council were struck out; and it was also agreed to insert words that six professors should be elected among the professors. This landed them in another difficulty. The bill said that one of the professors, a seventh, should be a professor of theology. To make the clause read it was proposed to leave out the words "of theology." Mr. Disraeli supported their retention; but they were ordered to be struck out by 148 to 135.

The chairman reported progress, leaving the clause unintelligible for the present.

The House in committee resumed the consideration of clause 6 on Thursday.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON moved that the word "convocation" be substituted for "congregation," thus constituting the former the electing body of "six members of convocation." This, he contended, was quite in unison with the previous decisions of the committee in favour of sectional election.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL opposed the amendment as hazardous. The power ought to be placed in the hands of those who feel their responsibility, and who see daily the result of their votes. Mr. HENLEY thought the extension of the electoral body, so as to comprise men of worldly experience, must be better than to entrust the choice to a narrow oligarchy of residents. After a somewhat heated discussion, in the course of which Mr. Gladstone administered rebuff to Mr. Henley for asserting that the residents were always in one extreme or another; and in reply to which Mr. Henley gave Mr. Gladstone permission to "misrepresent him as much as he pleased," the division was taken, and the amendment was rejected by 192 to 176. The clauses up to 10 were agreed to, and the chairman reported progress.

The Income Tax Bill has passed through the **Lords**, being read a third time on Tuesday. On the preceding evening the opponents of Government took the opportunity of the motion for going into committee not to oppose the bill, but to lecture Mr. Gladstone on his financial policy. In making the motion Earl GRANVILLE scarcely touched on the question of the tax, but briefly refuted some observations made by Lord Derby some time since, and now forgotten everywhere but in the House of Lords. In answer to this Lord Malmesbury made a counter attack; sneering at Mr. Gladstone's simple propositions, and remarking how easy it is to be simple when you have only to double an Income-tax. The simplicity of that tax is one of our greatest misfortunes. Had not Government known, when they threw away the soap duties, settled the Income-tax, lowered the interest in Exchequer Bills, and proposed the great abortive conversion scheme, that war was impending, interest rising, and trade decaying? They had attacked the financial schemes of his eminent and eloquent friend Mr. Disraeli, they had thrown out the late Government, but surely if it was for the advantage of the country that somebody should be substituted for Mr. Disraeli, that substitute was not Mr. Gladstone. Had he not, with the "secret correspondence" in his pocket, propounded the greatest delusion ever practised on the country—namely, that the Income-tax should cease in seven years? Had not Mr. Gladstone recently laid down the maxim that the present generation should bear the burden of the war; and does he not now come down with a newly-invented kind of loan. Did he not pay off one kind of stock at three per cent. and take up another at three and a half per cent.; pay off at par one month, and borrow at fifteen discount another?

Lord MONTEAGLE followed in the same course, but making out more solidly his case against the Government. Conceding to Mr. Gladstone great ability, and entertaining for him great respect, he yet thought it needful to place the plain English common sense view of the matter before the House. Lord Monteagle's position was that Mr. Gladstone

had involved the country in an extraordinary, anomalous, and dangerous position. To make out this he said that Downing-street and the Bank were not in perfect harmony—in fact, great financial difficulties arose out of their relations. Why was this? The country is prosperous; taxes have been repealed, yet still there is a surplus revenue. The fact is, Mr. Gladstone had mismanaged the unfunded debt. He had, last year, lowered the interest on Exchequer Bills when interest was rising, and he had paid away his balances to the proprietors of South Sea Stock. Why by simply doing nothing, accepting neither of the alternatives of the scheme, but being paid off at par, the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge had gained 10,000£ by the scheme! It was not correct to say that if there had been large balances at the Bank the House of Commons would have shrunk from meeting the war expenditure.

"Among the causes of real pride, the conduct of Parliament, and especially of the House of Commons, was this year memorable, and would ever be so. Never was there so much unanimity among the people of this country, and he had never known so great an absence of party feeling in both Houses with regard to the provision necessary for carrying on the war. The House of Commons had voted, without hesitation or division, a sum of 4,815,000£, in addition to the ordinary estimates for the army, the navy, and the ordnance. He might say, in passing, that it appeared from the diplomatic correspondence which has been entered into that the Emperor of Russia had relied for security upon this country having 'a bourgeois Parliament,' which would not support the expenses of the war. The House of Commons was, however, a noble refutation of the insinuation, for the Parliament deferred to the Emperor and despotic government of Russia was a Parliament which owed its origin and responsibility to the middle class of the country, who were not the people to shrink from making sacrifices when the honour, dignity, and interests of their country were concerned." (Cheers.)

But having no money, Government ran into debt. Lord Monteagle went largely into the question of large and small balances, arguing that the Bank Act recognised large balances; and that deficiency bills created a pressure upon the trade and capital of the country. He also took Mr. Gladstone to task for the mode in which he proposes to raise the new loan.

At no period was the debate spirited or attractive; and now it grew duller. The Duke of ARGYLL, whose forte certainly is not finance, made some remarks chiefly in reply to the political taunts of Lord Malmesbury, and left Lord Monteagle without an answer. Earl GREY made that a grave charge against the Government of disrespect to the House; and proceeded at wearisome length to give a different turn to views more succinctly put by Lord Monteagle. Earl GRANVILLE brought the debate to a close by some sharp retorts, but no finance; and the bill passed through committee. There was nothing to oppose.

For the first time this session, we believe, there was what is called "no House" on Tuesday; that is, when the Speaker took the chair at four o'clock, there were fewer than forty members present, and the House did not sit accordingly.

On Wednesday, three bills brought in by independent members were disposed of, and rejected for this session. The first that endured execution was Mr. Bowyer's Criminal Conversations Bill, which seems to have failed from lack of completeness. This bill abolished damages to be paid to the husband in actions for criminal conversation, and substituted in lieu a fine, to be paid to the Crown, by way of punishment for the offence; and gave the woman a right to be heard. It stood for the second reading, and Mr. BOWYER moved that it be read a second time. Mr. COLLIER met the motion by moving that it be read that day six months. He described the bill as one to encourage criminal conversation. It did not distinctly make the offence criminal; it mixed up proceedings known as civil with proceedings known as criminal; it fined the defendant in case of conviction; but gave the party injured no right of action. If they were to legislate criminally, then both man and woman should be punished. Mr. CRAVEN was surprised that a professed law reformer should object to the bill on the ground that it was new. Mr. WHITESIDE corrected this remark. As a law reformer Mr. Collier had objected to the bill because it did not amend, but would confuse the law. Mr. DIGBY SEYMOUR supported Mr. Bowyer; but the bill was opposed by Mr. PHINN and the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, entirely on the grounds indicated by Mr. Collier. Pressing the motion to a division, Mr. Bowyer was defeated by 121 to 49; and the bill was lost.

The second bill was that introduced by Mr. ARSEY PELLATT, the Declarations in lieu of Oaths Bill. This measure simply empowered judges, satisfied that a person has a conscientious objection to taking an oath, to permit them to make a declaration.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL admitted that persons who entertained conscientious scruples to the taking of oaths should be relieved from the necessity of taking them; still he could not altogether agree to the bill as it was at present framed. That he did fully admit the proposition that such persons ought to be relieved from the necessity of taking an oath

was best shown by the fact that he had joined in the report of the Common Law Commission recommending this change. There was now before the other House of Parliament, and he trusted that there would soon be before the House of Commons, a bill making great amendments in civil procedure and affording considerable relief to witnesses in this particular. It was his intention, with the permission of the House, to introduce that bill, and he should endeavour also to extend it to criminal as well as to civil procedure. There was, however, this essential difference between the bill which was at present before the other House and that of his hon. friend; his hon. friend proposed to enable a person to make a declaration instead of an oath, upon his mere statement that he had conscientious scruples to oath-taking. He thought that that might lead to very great abuse, and he must say that his experience had satisfied him that there were many persons who had a sense of the religious sanction of an oath who were not sufficiently alive and sensible to the moral obligations of a declaration. What the Attorney-General proposed was, not, as had been before suggested, to make it incumbent upon persons to register their names before the clerk of the peace or other officer as persons who objected to taking oaths. He thought that that was asking too much, because a man might not be aware, perhaps, of the necessity of such a thing, or, through carelessness, he might neglect to do it; yet the time might come when his evidence might be essential, not to himself, but to some other person, and then he would be excluded from giving evidence in a court of justice. What he proposed, by way of a middle course, which he thought would operate as a preventive to abuse, while it would afford all the relief necessary, was, that if the judge, or other minister of the law before whom the person was to give evidence, should be satisfied on inquiry that he really entertained conscientious scruples against taking an oath, and did not simulate an objection which he did not feel, then such person should be allowed to make a declaration instead of an oath. He thought that this would be sufficient to satisfy all reasonable expectations, and he trusted that after this assurance Mr. PELLATT would not consider it necessary to press his measure.

Mr. PELLATT, however, did press the motion, and the second reading was negatived by 136 to 37.

The third measure sacrificed was the Carlisle Canonries Bill, introduced by Mr. FURZON, member for that city, and standing for a second reading. The bill proposed to appropriate the income of one of the four canonries of the cathedral church of Carlisle as shall next fall vacant to the augmentation of the ecclesiastical incumbencies of that city. Mr. GOULBURN opposed it. Twelve years ago Parliament had determined that there should be four canonries in each cathedral. Incumbents are underpaid in many places beside Carlisle, and no exception should be made in favour of the latter. The House divided and threw out the bill by 87 to 79.

#### THE MILITIA.

Lord PALMERSTON obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to the militia. By the act 42, Geo. III., the Crown had the power of calling out the militia only in case of invasion, or the imminent danger of that taking place. On this occasion, considering how large a portion of the army had been sent abroad, and that a considerable time must elapse before troops were raised for regular service, it was of importance that the United Kingdom should avail itself of the troops for home service, and as they could not, he was glad to say, assert that the country, although at war with Russia, was in danger of an invasion, still the present was the time when it was of importance the country should avail itself of the services of the militia. The object of the bill which he had the honour to propose empowered the Crown to call out and embody the militia, in whole or in part, whenever the country was in a state of war. The bill also provided that if the troops should be called out for the shortest period which the law allowed for assembling, in case there should be occasion for their services for the full period of 56 days, that might be ordered without fresh notices being necessary.

It is not intended to enrol the Irish militia—on account of the expense.

The Militia Bill was read a second time on Thursday.

#### TICKETS-OF-LEAVE.

Lord St. LEONARD's called attention to the operation of the ticket-of-leave system. The case which had been reported was of a man who had been sentenced to seven years' transportation. He had been sent to Dartmoor prison, where he remained seventeen months, and having conducted himself well, he received from the Secretary of State for the Home Department, a ticket-of-leave. He then committed a new felony, by stealing some small article, and thereupon his ticket-of-leave, which was issued upon conditions, was forfeited, and upon proof of the new felony, he was sent back to his former imprisonment. He was sixty years of age, and according to his statement he was sent from Dartmouth to Edinburgh, where he had been originally convicted, in consequence of a

condition imposed by the Crown. The report stated that the man, who cried bitterly while in the dock, told the officer that he was driven to commit the offence by having been sent back to the scene of his former disgrace, where he could not get employment; for wherever he went he was a marked man, and the police followed him to every place where he applied for employ, and informed the parties of his former conviction; consequently, he was utterly unable to procure any means of livelihood. It was utterly impossible, under such circumstances, for a man to amend his course of life. It would be better to put a man out of existence at once than to continue such a system. Would the Government reconsider the matter?

The LORD CHANCELLOR threw doubt upon the statement, but promised to obtain information.

Mr. F. SCULLY called the attention of the Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department to the case of George Brown, at Bow-street Police-office, on Thursday last, and asked if convicts liberated with licences under the Act 15 and 17 Vic, c. 99, are usually ordered to be discharged in the place where they committed the crime for which they were convicted? If he is aware that the police are in the habit of informing the employers of such liberated prisoners of their previous character; whether they have any authority for doing so; and if he would lay upon the table of the House copies of the instructions relative to the discharge of convicts with leave of licence, and the rules and regulations of the police force in regard to such prisoners after their liberation?

Mr. FITZROY replied, that when convicts were liberated, an option was given to them to go either to the place where they had been committed, or to any other place they chose, not at a greater distance from the place of detention than that they had been committed. The expenses of the person liberated under licence, to either place, were paid, and some provision was made for subsistence during the journey. Such persons were also entitled to the full amount of their earnings during the time of their servitude; and, in this case, Brown had received, as the amount of his earnings, 57. 0s. 6d., and also the cost of his conveyance to Edinburgh, whither he wished to be transferred. So far from the police having hunted him, as had been stated in the public newspapers, and depriving him of the means of earning an honest livelihood, it would be seen from a statement he held in his hand what the real state of the facts was, and how little Brown was entitled to the sympathy of the public, and the paragraph referred to was corroborated by the inspector who had made inquiries on the subject. Mr. Fitzroy read an extract from a newspaper, which was as follows:—

"The usual practice of the police has always been to give full effect to the wishes and intentions of the authorities by jealousy guarding against any interference in respect to parties liberated after imprisonment, or under 'leave of licence,' which could possibly prevent their obtaining or continuing in honest employment. As regards the case of George Brown, we find that he was neither seen nor heard of by the police from the time he was transported, in 1850, till he was apprehended in Edinburgh on the 17th of March last, on the information of parties whose property had been stolen here. He was then identified by the criminal officers, and it was ascertained that he had been in Edinburgh about a month, and had committed several thefts within that period. His sister, a respectable woman, with whom he lived during those few weeks, and her neighbours, state that when he came he had 4l. or 5l. received, as they understood, from the authorities, and that he neither sought for nor obtained employment, but was drunk almost every day."

Sir J. PAKINGTON asked whether the Home-office, in carrying out this new principle of ticket-of-leave, gave any instructions either to the man so discharged on being sent to the place he had previously left; and, secondly, whether they instructed the police to give information to any person, who might be disposed to employ such liberated convict, as to his former habits of life?

Mr. FITZROY regretted he had not made himself more intelligible in his former answer. No special instructions whatever were given to the police with respect to their conduct in relation to those men. Those persons were precisely in the same position as liberated convicts who had completed their sentence. As to the second question, he had only again to repeat that it was optional with those persons to be sent either to the place from whence they had been committed, or to any other place not being a greater distance from the place in which they had been detained.

THE RAILWAY BILL.—Mr. Cardwell has succeeded to the railway interest, and altered his bill. He proposed, on Thursday, to go into committee *pro forma*, in order to introduce amendments. Several members, notably Mr. T. Duncombe, rated the Government for altering the bill. An attempt was made to adjourn the debate, but was negatived by 261 to 40. Mr. CARDWELL, with a reference to the difficulties of dealing with a question in which so many conflicting interests are involved, explained the provisions of the bill as it now stands. The first clause accomplishes two objects—it defines what the duties are which the companies owe to the public, and next, it imposes upon the companies an obligation entirely new to the law, to adjust their traffic not only with reference to the public convenience, but with

reference to the convenience of each other, so that the railways may no longer be separate and independent lines of communication. The next clause affords a simple and a less costly mode of carrying these objects into effect by an appeal to the constituted authorities at the instance of any person who thinks himself aggrieved. As a protection to the public, he believed the present measure would prove as efficient as the original measure would have been. The Speaker then left the chair, and the bill passed through committee *pro forma*.

**HORSE TRANSPORTS.**—Sir JAMES GRAHAM, in answer to Sir John Walsh, stated that accounts had just been received of the arrival of some of the horse transports at Malta; and that, although the weather had been somewhat rough, not a horse had been lost. Sir James added that the *Himalaya* steamer was being fitted for the conveyance of 500 horses to the East.

**TIMES' CORRESPONDENTS.**—Lord LOVAIN asked “whether the steamers taken up for the conveyance of her Majesty's troops to the East were not engaged exclusively for the accommodation of those troops; and whether the circumstances are known to the Board of Admiralty, under which the person who reported to the *Times* newspaper the condition of the troops landed at Gallipoli, appears to have obtained a passage on board such steamers from England to Malta, and from Malta to Gallipoli.”

Mr. BERNAL OSBORNE answered, that when steamers had complied with the requisitions of the Board of Admiralty, it was not usual to ask what other persons were to be conveyed. He had inquired into the incident referred to by Lord Lovaine, and he found that the gentleman spoken of was not conveyed in the vessel which conveyed the troops to Malta. Whether he went with the troops from Malta to Gallipoli, he could not tell.

**BUSINESS.**—On the motion of Lord REDESDALE, the following resolution was agreed to, on Tuesday, as a sesquialteral order:—“That this House will not read any bill a second time after Tuesday, the 25th of July, except bills of aid or supply, or any bill in relation to which the House shall have resolved, before the second reading is moved, that the circumstances which render legislation on the subject-matter of the same expedient, are either of such recent occurrence or increased urgency as to render the immediate consideration of the said bill necessary.”

[During his speech the gas nearly went out, and he continued to speak in the twilight, through which the snowy wig of the Lord Chancellor was just visible.]

The effect of the order will, it is hoped, be to expedite business in the House of Commons; but Lord Aberdeen is not sanguine as to the result.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATES.

On Monday Mr. Gladstone will make another financial statement. The supplementary estimates for the year 1854-55 have been printed.

**For the Army.**—Supplemental estimate of the charge which will probably be incurred for the pay, clothing, and incidental expenses of a further augmentation of 14,264 of all ranks:—

Additional numbers to be voted, 14,799, of all ranks.

Additional charge, land forces, 300,000l., of all ranks.

War Office, May 3, 1854. SIDNEY HERBERT.

**For the Navy.**—*Wages to Seamen and Marines.*—Service afloat: To defray the charge of wages which shall come in course of payment in the year ending on the 31st March, 1855, for 5000 seamen, to be employed in her Majesty's fleet for six months additional, provision having been made for the same for six months only in the navy estimates, 110,000l.; to meet the additional pay, beyond seaman's pay, to coast-guardmen and seamen riggers employed in her Majesty's fleet, 51,700l.; to defray the charge of wages which shall come in course of payment in the year ending on the 31st of March, 1855, for an additional 5000 seamen, to be employed in her Majesty's fleet, 220,000l.; to provide for the balance of pay due to the representatives of the officers and crews of her Majesty's ships *Erebus* and *Terror*, employed as discovery ships in the Arctic Regions, up to the 31st of March, 1854, 80,000l.—total, 461,700l.

*Victualls for Seamen and Marines.*—For provisions, &c., for 5000 men, for an additional period of six months to the 31st of March, 1855, 50,000l.; for additional victualling stores required, and for freight of provisions, and for increase in the prices of several species of stores and provisions, 50,000l.; for provisions, victualling stores, &c., for an additional 5000 men, to be employed in her Majesty's fleet for one year ending on the 31st of March, 1855, 100,000l.—total, 200,000l.

Admiralty-office, 5000l.

Her Majesty's establishments at home, 2000l.

Wages to artificers, &c., employed in her Majesty's establishments at home, 47,000l.

Wages to artificers, &c., employed in her Majesty's establishments abroad, 1000l.

*Naval Stores, &c., for the Building and Repair of Ships.*—For the purchase of coal and other fuel for her Majesty's steam vessels, 160,000l.; for the purchase of stores required to replace those issued to the fleet, 40,000l.; for the purchase and repair of steam machinery, 252,674l.; for the purchase of steam vessels, gun-boats, &c., 244,657l.—total, 697,881l.

New works, improvements, and repairs in the yards, &c., 7000l.

Medicines and medical stores, 30,000l.

Miscellaneous services, 6000l.

**Army and Ordnance Departments.**—For expenses in transporting troops and horses, classed under the following heads, viz.:—Freight of transports on monthly pay, including steam vessels, or for the purchase of the same, 2,610,200l.; freight of ships hired for conveyance of troops, &c., including rations, 108,000l.; coal for steam transports and freight ships, 160,000l.; freight of stores for army and ordnance services, 25,000l.; meas of military officers and civilians on passage, 15,000l.; conveyance of troops coastwise, 5000l.; passage money for military officers and civilians, 500l.; fitting transports and freight ships, 50,000l.; bedding, blankets, 7000l.

and other stores for troops, &c., 50,000l.; forage and stores for horses, 50,000l.; pay and contingent expenses of officers and agents for transports, 5000l.; provisions for troops embarked, 18,000l.—total, 3,096,700l.

The whole charge amounts to the sum of four million five hundred and fifty-three thousand seven hundred and thirty-one pounds.

J. R. G. GRAHAM,

W. COWER.

*For the Ordnance.*—Pay, &c., *Ordnance, Military Corps.*

—Pay of field train officers, and additional non-commissioned officers and artificers, royal artillery, to complete the equipments for the field on foreign service, 10,513l.; additional pay and allowances, foreign service, 11,020l.; travelling expenses, carriage of baggage, &c., 2000l.; for the purchase of horses, 30,000l.—total, 53,333l.

*Barrack Supplies, &c.*—Barrack supplies, 30,000l.; great coats, 44,621l.; boots, shoes, &c., for troops in the field, 22,113l.—total, 96,734l.

*Establishments.*—Salaries and allowances to officers and clerks at sundry stations at home, 2000l.

*Wages.*—Woolwich, 104,190l.

*Stores.*—For the supply of small arms, 30,000l.; for the purchase of iron ordnance, &c., 33,000l.; for the purchase of ordnance stores, or every description, as, under, viz.: gunpowder, 8250l.; timber, 40,245l.; miscellaneous stores, 325,380l.; materials for packing, carriage of ammunition, stores, &c., 18,000l.; for the building of ordnance vessels, 6000l.—total, 455,875l.

*Works, Buildings, &c.*—Special engineer services in connexion with the expedition, 20,000l.; for the erection of barracks at Aldershot, 10,000l.—total, 30,000l.

General total, 742,132l.

W. MONSELL.

T. HASTINGS.

#### CONTINENTAL NOTES.

The telegraph and the admirals in the Black Sea have taken care that the public shall not want for exciting sensations this week. We have not only had our breath taken away by the announcement of a “splendid defeat” of the Russians, which defeat has benefited the evening papers far more than it has the Turks, but we have had a running fire of messages announcing the bombardment of Odessa. This is a fact; whatever the splendid defeat may be. The history of its origin is noteworthy. When the captain of the *Furious* reported that his flag of truce had been fired at by the Russian batteries at Odessa, the British and French admirals immediately consulted as to how best they should reply to this outrage on the law of nations. Their minds were speedily made up, and on the 17th April the vanguard of the fleet steamed close to the port and tried the range of their guns by throwing a few shells. This appears to have been repeated the next day, as far as we can make out. Then we come to the telegraphic messages; first, the Russian account from Vienna, stating that the bombardment took place on the 24th, and that an attempt to land 1800 men had failed; next the date is altered to the 22nd, and the wire reports that the magazines are in flames; nine Russian ships burnt; after a cannonade of two hours. Then the Paris *Moniteur* furnishes an authentic statement from some quarter—not entirely to be taken for granted however. It asserts that “official accounts from Odessa, dated the 23rd of April, announce the bombardment of that town by nine ships of the combined fleet.”

This is the only authentic news at present. It is also stated that the fleets have bombarded the batteries at the Sulina mouth of the Danube. So much for the fleets. On shore we have no reason to believe that anything had taken place of an offensive nature like that reported so loudly on Wednesday. That report was dated Vienna, Wednesday morning, and ran thus:—

“The following report circulates in Bucharest:—Omar Pasha advanced with 70,000 men towards the Dobrodscha on the 18th or 19th of April, and a battle took place with Luders' corps between Silistria and Rassova. During the night, Omar Pasha had detached a division in the direction of the Black Sea, and when the battle was at its height the next day this corps attacked the Russians in their rear, causing unexampled confusion and consternation. General Luders retreated towards Czernavoda, and it is said that the Russians lost many guns, ammunition, stores, and baggage-wagons, and even their military chest.”

“On the 20th, a Turkish flying corps crossed the Danube below Silistria, in order to destroy the Russian strand batteries. They advanced to Kalarash, where there was hard fighting for some hours. The Turks fought like lions, but being terribly overmatched, were ultimately forced to retreat.”

But there is every reason to believe that this battle did not take place as represented; and, indeed, it is obvious that the battle referred to was the check given to the Russians on the 20th at Czernavoda. But the evacuation of Lesser Wallachia by the Russians, and their retreat behind the Aluta, are facts. The Turkish garrison at Kalafat were already moving down the Danube. A report in a Brussels paper states that an Austrian corps has entered Lesser Wallachia, and wonder is expressed why they should have made that movement. We do not believe the report; but certainly, if Austria means to act with the Western Powers, in what better direction could she operate than in the right rear of the Russian army?

It seems also true that Silistria has been bombarded, but probably only from the opposite shore of the Danube. The dashing onset of the Turks near Kalarash, may refer to an attempt to clear away the batteries directed against Silistria.

The following are some details respecting the apparition of the Russian cavalry at Kostendje. The steamers *Sidon* and *Magellan* were both anchored in that port, and the captain of the latter with some of his men set out on a shooting excursion. Having arrived at a wood in the neighbourhood of the town, the party encountered some troopers belonging to a regiment of Russian cavalry in ambush at no great

distance from the spot. The French commander and his men opened instantly a brisk fire, and having killed two of the Russians, betook themselves in all haste to their boat, which they found unfortunately stranded. The Russians came on in numbers, and would have necessarily captured the whole French party, had it not been that the affair was described by people on board the *Magellan*, who, by means of a shell, launched at all risks and all hazards, but without inflicting the slightest injury on their own friends. The confusion produced by so unexpected a reception, enabled the captain and his men to right their boat, embark, and regain their ship. The first shell from the *Magellan* was followed up by several shots from her long guns, which, it is understood, did good execution, and dispersed *pelle-mèle* the Muscovites.

The army of Bulgaria consists of 440,000 men, regulars and irregulars. Of the former there are 95,000 men, including the garrison of Sophia. At Widdin and Kalafat there are 20,000; at Varna, 8500; at Rustchuk, 7000; at Silistria, 11,000. At Shumla there are now 55,000 men, and 320 guns, of which 138 are for field purposes. The number of guns in position are said to be insufficient, but as the arsenal at Constantinople is turning out 20 per week, this want may be soon remedied. The remainder of the troops are in garrison at Sophia, Turtkai, and in the passes of the Balkan.

King Otho's rebellion does not prosper. All the despatches of a late date are unanimous in so describing it. Peta, the head-quarters of the King Otho's insurgents, has been taken by storm; two of their principal chiefs, Tzavella and Karalskaki, have been thoroughly beaten; the third chief, Grivas, has fled. The rebels were defeated even at Mezovo. With the exception of the Piraeus, all the coasts of Greece are rigidly watched. English and French ships are stationed at Patras, Vanetza, Styli, and Negropont; they suffer no vessel to come out without sending a party on board to make an effective search. Pirates, however, are swarming in the Archipelago.

When Peta, the centre of the Greek insurrection, was taken, on the 25th, by Osmal Pacha, documents, it is said, were found on the body of Tzavella's secretary, who perished in the combat, which entirely compromise the Greek Government.

The following war-tax is now being levied at St. Petersburg. On the tradesmen and merchants of the 1st guild, 300 silver roubles; on those of the 2nd guild, 160; and on those of the 3rd guild, 106. All housekeepers without distinction are assessed ten per cent. on the actual rent they pay or receive.

The Montenegrins are now fairly afoot. Prince Danilo has called upon all who are not afraid to face death to join him in making war upon the Turks in defence of the “orthodox faith.” This is clearly the work of Kovalevsky, the Russian agent in Montenegro. It has been confidently asserted that Austria intends to prevent the warlike Danilo from doing much mischief in the Herzegovina.

The Greek Government is in a fix. M. Paikos, the Foreign Minister, has been found to be a gentleman who does not write in his diplomatic notes what is exactly true. In a note to Nessel Bey of the 7th March, M. Paikos asserted that the Turkish troops, on the 26th February, had crossed the Greek frontier in pursuit of the Christians of Arta. Mr. Wyse, British Minister, and M. Fort Bouen, French Minister, distinctly state, after the fullest inquiries, that the statement of M. Paikos is not only erroneous, but the reverse of the fact. The truth is that a body of Greek light troops, under Lieutenant-Colonel Skilodimos, did, on the 26th February, cross the Turkish frontier and fight under the walls of Arta to relieve Karakakis; so that it was an infringement of Turkish not Greek territory. Besides this, the Ministers of the Western Powers charge M. Paikos with keeping back the notes of the Four Powers from the knowledge of the Senate and Chamber.

Prince Napoleon, who arrived at Syria on the 25th, left that place an hour afterwards on his way to Constantinople. M. Jean Soutzo, Secretary of the Greek Legation in Russia, has brought to Athens 200,000fr. from St. Petersburg. It is expected that 500,000fr. will be sent from Bucharest. Subscriptions are opened in Russia.

The Prussian Chambers broke up last Saturday, having agreed to the Ministerial loan. At the close Baron Manteuffel made a speech, in which he repeated the strange assertion, that Prussia, in accord with the Western Powers [who are at war] will seek to maintain peace. In the Second Chamber Count Schwerin, greatly to the disgust of the Russian party, made a farewell speech, in which he distinctly stated that the Chamber had granted the loan because they were convinced the Government would follow a certain direction in foreign policy—of course an anti-Russian direction. Prussia, he said, could do nothing great, even if she were forced to enter the fight sword in hand, unless the people and the Government were firmly united, unless the Minister had the confidence of the nation; and he boldly declared that the only way to win that confidence was to give freedom of action and mature development to the Constitution.

The treaty between Austria and Prussia has been ratified; and Baron Hess is again in commission to do diplomatic duty at Frankfort.

The marriage of the Emperor of Austria was a splendid affair; a magnificently-gilded sepulchre. The young Empress—she is only sixteen—arrived at the Schönbrunn on the 22nd of April. Her mother accompanied her; and she rested there that night in order that she might enter Vienna in state the next day. On the 23rd she went with her mother, the Duchess Louise of Bavaria, in grand procession to an institution founded by Maria Theresa, called the Theresianum, where, according to an old custom, she assumed the wreath and the diadem. From thence, escorted by a gay cavalcade of the knights, nobles, and hired troops of Austria, she passed through

streets crowded with people, and decked out with the pomp of a festal day, to the Imperial Burg, where the Emperor affectionately waited to receive her. On the 24th, in the church of St. Augustine, she was married by the Archbishop of Vienna. Ten thousand wax lights illuminated the interior of the church, displaying the crimson velvet hangings on the walls, and the brilliantly-clad groups of counts, princes, barons, diplomats, generals, statesmen, and court ladies, who filled the building. The bride, wearing a white robe, embroidered with silver and gold, her head encircled with a diadem of brilliants, was led to the altar by her own mother and the mother of the Emperor. When the ceremony was over, it was announced by cannon in the town. The conspicuous strangers present were the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Saxe-Gotha, and the Prince of Schleswig-Holstein Glucksburg. Marshal Radetzki receives the Grand Cross of St. Stephen; Dr. Bach becomes Baron Bach; Count Buol gets the Grand Cross of Leopold, and Baron Jellachich becomes a count.

The Duke of Cambridge left Vienna, on Tuesday, for Constantinople, via Trieste and Corfu.

The French Commander-in-Chief, Marshal St. Arnaud, has at length taken his departure for the seat of war. He steamed off from Marseilles on Tuesday, in the *Berthouet*. Dressed in full uniform, he was accompanied to the ship by General Rostolan, General Fauchez, and the Prefect. Gay crowds lined the shore, the forts fired a salute, and away went the steamer for Constantinople. Madame St. Arnaud has accompanied her husband.

A telegraphic despatch is said to have been received by the French Government on Thursday night, announcing a victory by the Turks, and that Omar Pasha had succeeded in cutting two of the Russian army in the Dobrodscha. The despatch, however, is not regarded as sufficiently authentic, and therefore was not published.

By a recent letter from Constantinople, it appears that, at a *souiré* given by General Baraguay d' Hilliers, the Hungarian General Klapka was an invited guest, and that as soon as he entered the room, all the Austrians present, the *corps diplomatique* included, went away.

The following is the text of the protocol signed at Vienna, on the 9th of April, by the representatives of Austria, France, Great Britain, and Prussia:

"At the request of the plenipotentiaries of France and of Great Britain, the Conference met to hear the documents read which establish that the invitation addressed to the Cabinet of St. Petersburg to evacuate the Moldo-Wallachian provinces within a fixed time having remained unanswered, the state of war already declared between Russia and the Sublime Porte is in actual existence equally between Russia, on the one side, and France and Great Britain on the other.

"This change which has taken place in the attitude of two of the Powers represented at the Conference of Vienna, in consequence of a step taken directly by France and England, supported by Austria and Prussia as being founded in right, has been considered by the representatives of Austria and Prussia as involving the necessity of a fresh declaration of the union of the Four Powers upon the ground of the principles laid down in the protocols of December, 5, 1853, and January 13, 1854.

"In consequence, the undersigned have at this solemn moment declared that their Governments remain united in the double object of maintaining the territorial integrity of the Ottoman empire, of which the fact of the evacuation of the Dalmatian principalities is and will remain one of the essential conditions; and of consolidating in an interest so much in conformity with the sentiments of the Sultan, and by every means compatible with his independence and sovereignty, the civil and religious rights of the Christian subjects of the Porte.

"The territorial integrity of the Ottoman empire is and remains the *sine qua non* condition of every transaction having for its object the re-establishment of peace between the belligerent Powers; and the Governments represented by the undersigned engage to endeavour in common to discover the guarantees most likely to attach the existence of that empire to the general equilibrium of Europe; as they also declare themselves ready to deliberate and to come to an understanding as to the employment of the means calculated to accomplish the object of their agreement.

"Whatever event may arise in consequence of this agreement, founded solely upon the general interests of Europe, and of which the object can only be attained by the return of a firm and lasting peace, the Governments represented by the undersigned reciprocally engage not to enter into any definitive arrangement with the Imperial Court of Russia, or with any other Power, which would be at variance with the principles above-mentioned, without previously deliberating thereon in common."

Lord Raglan left Malta, in the *Emu*, on the 24th of April; and must be by this time at Constantinople.

The French fleet, which was riding at Deal, set sail for the Baltic, on Wednesday, full of spirits and very confident that they will be able to knock the forts of Cronstadt about. A correspondent says:—

"The Admiralty, treating their French friends much better than they behaved to their own countrymen, have had a batch of thoroughly tried, certificated, and most skilful pilots from the Tyne, in waiting for the squadron of France, ever since the 23rd ult. These pilots know the Russian waters and dominions as accurately and as closely as they do every yard of the British shore. They report that, unless some totally unforeseen accident occurs, Cronstadt may be taken and silenced, the fort being built on unseasoned wood, and that the great guns may afterwards be dragged

up the land to St. Petersburg in less than five weeks from the present time!"

"It is a pleasant surprise to hear of the unhesitating readiness with which the French attest our naval supremacy—one and all avow that whatever their armies have done on land has been equalled by our navies on the sea. The French ships, nevertheless, are fine majestic vessels, their spars and rigging are not so trim and sailor-like as our own, perhaps, but their hulls cannot be found fault with. On the 29th ult. several English parties visited the ships. The men of the *Tage* were at full exercise with the guns, brawny, fresh-looking, active fellows, and these great pieces of artillery were handled with a precision, *savoir-faire* andelerity that would not have shamed the cleverest fellows at Woolwich, or on board the *Wellington*. The scene between decks was beyond description: 'Twas as full as a fair, yet order and discipline reigned throughout; here a parcel of men cutting up and weighing out the meat, vegetables, bread, &c., there the cook and his mates before the galley fire watching the simmering pots or hissing spits; on this side a smart Breton sergeant drilling raw recruits with the muskets, on the other side the gunners and lads loading and running out and in their guns; beyond a drummer with his pupils; sailors and soldiers mixed indiscriminately, and yet all attend, obedient, without noise or confusion. The squadron, despite of the bad weather which prevented a very frequent interchange of visits with the shore, spent a great deal of money in the town; oilskin apparel, and English hose met with ready customers. A butcher received 1000L for fresh meat, and one of the principal bakers had his breath pleasantly taken away by an order for 14,000 loaves. Grocery and vegetables were largely purchased, and though the French service is not reputed to be as well off as ours, there was no demur as to prices."

A supplement extraordinary to the *Journal de St. Petersburg*, of April 11 (23rd), 1854, No. 379, gives the following Manifesto of the Emperor:

MANIFESTO OF HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR.

"St. Petersburg, April 11 (23).

"By the grace of God, we, Nicholas the First, Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russias, King of Poland, &c., &c., to all our subjects make known: Since the commencement of our difference with the Turkish Government, we have solemnly announced to our faithful subjects that a sentiment of justice had alone induced us to re-establish the violated rights of the orthodox Christians, subjects of the Ottoman Porte.

"We have not sought, we do not seek, to make conquests, nor to exercise in Turkey any supremacy whatever, that might be likely to exceed that influence which belongs to Russia by virtue of existing treaties.

"At that period we already encountered distrust, then soon a covert hostility on the part of the Governments of France and England, who endeavoured to lead the Porte astray by misrepresenting our intentions. Lastly, at this moment, England and France threw off the mask, regard our difference with Turkey as a mere secondary question, and no longer dissemble that their joint object is to weaken Russia, to tear from her a part of her possessions, and to bring down our country from the powerful position to which the hand of the Supreme Being had exalted it.

"Is it for orthodoxy Russia to fear such threats?

"Ready to confound the audacity of the enemy, shall she avenge from the sacred purpose that has been assigned to her by Divine Providence? No! Russia has not forgotten God! It is not for worldly interests that she has taken up arms: she combats for the Christian faith, for the defence of her coreligionists oppressed by implacable enemies.

"Let all Christendom know, then, that the thought of the Sovereign of Russia is also the thought that animates and inspires all the great family of the Russian people—this orthodox people, faithful to God and to his only Son Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

"It is for the faith and for Christendom that we combat!

God with us—who against us?

"Given at St. Petersburg, on the 11th day of the month of April, in the year of grace 1854, and the twenty-ninth of our reign.

(Signed) "NICHOLAS."

BRITISH TROOPS IN TURKEY.

It was on Good Friday that the first British regiment, the 41st, arrived—the first British soldiers that for hundreds of years have set foot on the banks of the Bosphorus. On that day the *Himalaya* brought to oppose the great barrack at Scutari, the soldiers cheering and the band playing "God save the Queen." Many persons, Turkish and British, came over from Pera to see the redcoats land; and from the accounts of two who were present doing a stroke of business, we extract some passages:—

"The troops were formed into small detachments as they stepped on shore, and at once marched up the hill to their new home. A regiment of Turkish infantry was drawn out in front of the principal entrance of the building, and the Turkish band played a hearty welcome to the British allies as they stepped past. Turkish officers and interpreters were in waiting to receive the troops. The Pacha of Scutari was also in attendance, whilst others had gone on board to welcome the new comers. Our soldiers were looking well, smart and active, and seemed glad at exchanging the close steamer for the clean and roomy accommodation of the Turkish barrack. The first hundred men had scarcely entered the building before the British sentries were already parading up and down at the four gates. This metamorphosis seemed much to puzzle the population of Scutari."

Here is another view:—

"The new tenants had come in before the old ones had gone out. Further on, at the inner corner of the vaulted gate, two soldiers of the 41st walked about doing duty as

sentinels amidst the confusion of discordant sounds and uncouth dresses that swept around them, and looking as cool and unconcerned and as much at home as if they were standing on the pavement of some English guard-house. The whole of the 41st were in the enormous barrack-yard, of which, though dispersed and strolling about to keep out the cold, they only occupied one-half. Though just come in, the regiment looked as clean and orderly as if they had been living in these barracks for many years past."

The men were paraded; and the scene filled the Turks with delight.

"They thronged around the few Englishmen present who could speak their language, and expressed their admiration without reserve and in a very *savoir-faire* manner. Some of the soldiers asked with great humility, 'Will these red-coated soldiers be allowed to drill us?' If so, 'Inshallah!' they will make very good soldiers of us!' And their officers, twirling their black moustaches, every now and then raised their hands, saying, 'Inshallah!' which with them is an expression of unbounded delight and admiration. Some went up to the men of the 33rd, who stood looking on while the 41st were on parade. They pulled their sleeves, and endeavoured to engage them in conversation. Finding all their attempts fruitless—for the soldiers only smiled and shrugged their shoulders—they came back and said very sadly, 'These are very fine men and formidable soldiers. But they cannot speak. We love them as brethren, because they mean to fight for us. Truly, they are gallant men. May God give them strength!' Some women, too, strange to say, had broken through the customs of their country, and loitered about the entrances to the barrack-yard."

Again; here is a testimony to the temper of our men:—

"The first question the gallant fellows asked was most creditable to them as British soldiers, for it showed that they were not only in arms, but also 'eager for the fray.' Where were the Russians? Having doubtlessly been told that the Czar's armies were threatening Constantinople, the gallant 33rd and 41st believed that the Russian outposts must be very near the capital, and that the Queen's troops would not have far to walk to get at them. This was shown by their evident disappointment on being told that the enemy were a good way off, and that the allied armies would have many days to march before coming up with the enemy. 'Had the been fighting the Russians?' Again they were doomed to disappointment, for, with the exception of the *Fouriers* and the *Fury*, no vessel of the fleet had as yet seen the enemy. These matters being settled, though hardly to the satisfaction of the soldiers, their thoughts turned to the mode and manner of existence and enjoyment in this strange country, and eager questions were asked as to the prices of wine and tobacco, and great was their delight when informed that these commodities were sold at prices which to men fresh from home quarters and the blessings of customs and excise, must appear fabulously low."

"The men all seemed very glad at landing, though one, of whom I inquired whether they had made a prosperous voyage, answered me in the affirmative with an 'Och, yes, sir,' which had a strong Hibernian smack. The regimental dog of the 41st Regiment, with '41' marked on his side, was there wagging his tail, and evidently quite aware that he was in Turkey. I should recommend the Scutari curs to keep out of his way, as he did not seem a gentleman to be trifled with, but as an ally it may be presumed that he will not be exposed to much insult.

"The Turkish women's curiosity is greatly moved, and those assembled were pattering about in their yellow morocco boots and slippers, their eyes peering out with dark lustre from under the white yastmuth. 'Inglis askier cice Yusef' (The English soldiers are well-looking), was said by one near me; to which another replied, 'Sakallarō yok' (They have no beards)."

There were on April 20th six British regiments at Scutari.

With respect to Gallipoli, here is a genuine bit of letter-writing by a corporal of the 44th, and published in the *Times*:—

"We landed at Gallipoli on the 11th of the same month, and I have to inform you that it is as fine a country as ever my eyes did see; and as for cattle, bullocks do all the work that there is to do here, in the place of horses; and as for beef, and mutton, and bread, they are cheap. You buy a fine sheep for 2s. and 2s. 6d., and the very day that I write this letter, I see a sheep sold for 5d., but they were very young."

"But I have to inform you that there is no inhabitants in the place where my regiment, and the Fiftieth, and Forty-third, and Rifles, and Forty-second are. There is no more English troops come up yet; but plenty of French troops lay with us, a thing that was never known before; English and French troops together, and drinking and going on as they are now."

"Dear father, I suppose that you remind the time that there was pressing. They used to take a man from a wagon when going on the road to market. Well, that is the very same way with the Turks. If a man have two sons and one girl, the two sons was taken from him; and any man that was fit to use a firelock was taken to the war. They are hard at it about eighty miles from where we lies at present, but we expect to be in it red hot in about another month."

"Dear father, I can tell the price of a few articles. Coffee is 1s. per lb., and bread is 1d. per lb., and tea is 8d. per lb., and tobacco is 6d. per lb.; peat, 2d. the real best; but you cannot get a pipe under 1d. per pipe, and as for beer and porter there is none. Black wine and coffee you can buy ready-made, and as for shoemakers there is none; and there is no one to work the ground, the finest land that ever you did see; and as for water, the best water that ever I did drink; and as for game there is plenty of all sorts. Our officers go out a shooting every day, and bring plenty of game home with them; and as for trees I never see less than what there is here."

## THE MARQUIS OF ANGLESEY.

Lord Anglesey lived to hear the news of the first gun fired by England in the great war now breaking up the foundations of the great peace, in the settlement of which his sword had played a conspicuous part. The story of the little *Fury*, and her achievement of Sebastopol, reached London about the middle of last week, and only on Saturday morning the Marquis of Anglesey lay a corpse. He was eighty-six years of age, having been born in May, 1768. Twenty-one years after that event the French revolution burst forth, involving the death of King Louis and war throughout Europe. Our hero, under the title of Lord Paget, raised a regiment from among the Staffordshire tenantry of his father, the Earl of Uxbridge, the Eightieth Foot, and became its Lieutenant-Colonel. In 1794 he led his regiment to Flanders, and under the Duke of York shared in the miserable expedition to Flanders, which, although a military failure, was not without those gallant individual actions which we meet with everywhere in the path of a British army. In these actions, courageous alike in the advance and the retreat, Lord Paget won his share of glory. On returning to England he left the Eightieth and became Colonel of the Seventh Light Dragoons. At Ipswich a considerable body of cavalry was mustered, and there, under Lord Paget's guidance, commenced that series of evolutions and that system of discipline which effected an entire reform in our cavalry. Again it was the fortune of Lord Paget to serve under the Duke of York in the notorious expedition to Holland, in which, although he and others reaped individual honours, the general again failed. Returning home once more, he married Caroline, daughter of the Earl of Jersey, by whom he had eight children. The match, however, was not a happy one, and ended in a divorce. In 1803 Lord Paget went as cavalry commander to Spain with the army under Sir David Baird. Sir John Moore's operations, alike able and vigorous, were utterly frustrated, as is well known, by the deceit and apathy of the Spaniards; and after a most brilliant and masterly movement right into the heart of the kingdom, in order to give the insurgents an opportunity of finding ample employment for Napoleon, unsupported by his slippery allies, Sir John was forced to make a rapid retreat upon Corunna before the advance of Napoleon's immense armies. In this retreat, though sometimes rash, Lord Paget was always brave, and covered the rear, dealing at every conceivable opportunity rapid and deadly blows upon his pursuers. The result of that retreat is well known—the army was saved, but Sir John Moore, the best general then in our service, except Sir Arthur Wellesley, died upon the field of Corunna.

In the autumn of 1806, Lord Paget returned to England, where he remained for some time, taking no part in the Peninsular campaigns. During this time his lordship was divorced from Lady Paget, and then married Lady Cowley, who was divorced from Lord Cowley in 1810. From 1806 to 1812 Lord Paget sat in the House of Commons as representative for Milburn Port, when the death of his father, in the latter year, removed him to the House of Peers as Earl of Uxbridge. But Napoleon, confined in Elba, broke forth; and the Earl of Uxbridge went over to Belgium in command of the cavalry. At Waterloo he was foremost in the victorious charges of the British cavalry, and escaped unhurt; but when the day was won a stray shot broke his leg; it was amputated, and buried as a relic in the garden opposite the inn at Waterloo. The Earl of Uxbridge was made Marquis of Anglesey.

Under Canning, Lord Anglesey was Master-General of the Ordnance, and under the Wellington Administration he was entrusted with the Vice-Regency of Ireland, where he became so popular that a public demonstration of regret was made in Dublin when he was recalled. He vindicated his conduct, however, so well in the House of Lords that he was soon replaced, and held the office for several years. On his return, he resumed his seat in the House, and although he regularly attended, he seldom spoke. He generally sat beside the Duke of Wellington.

In his estimate of him the *Times* has these observations:—

"He belonged to a race of nobles who have passed away from among us; he was the last of the race, and we shall know them no more. Your modern English peer is a sharp land agent or conveyancer, or a jocular, hair-splitting law lord; or, if he be of a younger generation, he is a painful devotee of blue-books—a man ready to talk for three hours upon the condition of Central Asia, or the statistics of dandies in the county of Salop; but a nobleman he is not in the sense in which Lord Anglesey was one. Society may possibly have gained by the change—we simply notify the fact that a genus is extinct of which Lord Anglesey was a brilliant example. He was a man pre-eminently fearless and brave, but ever courageous and of high-bred manner. It is very true that nature had given him great advantages of form and bearing, and the consciousness of his own rank and position might have helped him somewhat in the same direction; but, independently of all this, there was about him the dignity of a kind heart, and of a man who respects others because he respects himself. . . . There may be other survivors, but Lord Anglesey had this

in common with the Great Duke—that he was ever before us. We saw him continually and everywhere. In the parks, in the streets, in assemblies and parties, or stretching down Long Reach in the *Pearl*, with his great man-of-war set, Lord Anglesey was ever about among his countrymen. . . . With him the old race of nobles is well-nigh burnt out; so of the Paladins of the last war. Lord Beresford, Lord Londonderry, and Lord Anglesey have not been slow to rejoin their great general, even in the grave."

By his death there became vacant the command of Cowes Castle, which will not be filled up; the lord-lieutenancy of Staffordshire, the colonelcy of Royal Horse Guards (Blues), the lord-lieutenancy of Anglesey, the office of constable of Carnarvon Castle, and the rangership of Snowden Forest. The Premier has also a Blue Riband to give away.

Lord Paget, M.P. for South Staffordshire, now becomes Earl of Uxbridge, but no vacancy occurs, as the barony of Paget merges into the marquisate once more.

## DEATH OF JAMES MONTGOMERY.

James Montgomery, the poet and journalist, died at Sheffield on Sunday morning, at the great age of eighty-two. His memory has an especial claim upon our sympathies, because he was one of the earliest to suffer in behalf of the cause of free speech and unlicensed printing since the era of newspapers, and that not for scurrility, but patriotism. Honour be to his memory. Many who now write and print in peace owe that privilege to the sufferings of those men who, at the close of the last, and all through the first half of this century, vindicated the rights of Englishmen.

We borrow from the columns of the *Daily News* the only notice we are able to present of the life of James Montgomery.

"James Montgomery was born as long ago as November 4, 1771, at Irvine, in Ayrshire. His father was a Moravian missionary, who, leaving his son in Yorkshire to be educated, went to the West Indies, where he and the poet's mother both died. When only 12 years old, the bent of the boy's mind was shown by the production of various small poems. These indications could not save him at first from the fate of the poor, and he was sent to earn his bread as assistant in a general shop. He thirsted for other occupations, and one day set off with 3s. 6d. in his pocket to walk to London, to seek fame and fortune. In his first effort he broke down, and for a while gave up his plan to take service in another situation. Only for a time, however, was he content, and a second effort to reach the metropolis was successful, so far as bringing him to the spot he had longed for, but unsuccessful to his main hope—that of finding a publisher for a volume of his verses. But the bookseller who refused Montgomery's poems accepted his labour, and made him his shopman. Fortune, however, as she generally does, smiled at last on the zealous youth, and in 1792 he gained a post in the establishment of Mr. Gales, a bookseller of Sheffield, who had set up a newspaper called the *Sheffield Register*. On this paper Montgomery worked *con amore*, and when his master had to fly from England to avoid imprisonment for printing articles too liberal for the then despotic Government of England, the young poet became the editor and publisher of the paper, the name of which he changed to *Sheffield Iris*. In the columns of this print he advocated political and religious freedom, and such conduct secured for him the attentions of the Attorney-General, by whom he was prosecuted, fined, and imprisoned; in the first instance for reprinting a song commemorating 'The Fall of the Bastile'; in the second case, for an account he gave of a riot in Sheffield. Confinement could not crush his love of political justice, and on his second release he went on advocating the doctrines of freedom as before, in his paper and in his books. In the lengthy periods between those times and the present, the beliefs which James Montgomery early pioneered in England have obtained general recognition, and as men became more and more liberal, our poet gained more and more esteem. He contributed to magazines, and despite adverse criticism in the *Edinburgh Review*, established his right to rank as a poet. In 1797 he published 'Prison Amusements'; in 1805, the 'Ocean'; in 1806, the 'Wanderer in Switzerland'; in 1809, 'The West Indies'; and in 1812, 'The World before the Flood.' By these works he obtained the chief reputation he has since enjoyed. In 1819 appeared 'Greenland,' a poem in five cantos; and in 1828, 'The Pelican Island, and other Poems.' In 1851 the whole of his works were issued in one volume, of which two editions are in circulation; and in 1853, 'Original Hymns, for Public, Private, and Social Devotion.' This venerable poet enjoyed a well-deserved literary pension of 150*l.* a-year."

## PUBLIC DINNERS.

## THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

AMONG the pleasant dinners to which Ministers are invited in the course of the year, certainly the Royal Academy dinner is one of the pleasantest. As our readers well know, on the Saturday preceding the opening of the Exhibition, the President, professors, academicians, and associates of the corporation in Trafalgar-square order a splendid banquet, and entertain the great officers of State, members of Parliament, now and then a bishop, and some distinguished man of science and literature. The great east room is fitted up as a banqueting-hall on the occasion, lighted by gas from above, which when the

Queen's health is drunk, is suddenly turned fully on, revealing the pictured walls under that blaze of light. At the dinner last Saturday the Cabinet contributed nine of its members—Lord John Russell, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Palmerston, Lord Clarendon, the Duke of Newcastle, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Mr. Sidney Herbert, Earl Granville, and Mr. Gladstone; the Opposition sent Mr. Disraeli and his two squires, Mr. Walpole and Sir John Pakington; the Church furnished the Bishop of London and the Bishop of Oxford; Law forwarded, besides Lord Cranworth, Sir John Jervis, Lord Campbell, and Mr. Justice Coleridge; Science sent Professor Owen; Literature was represented by Mr. Charles Dickens, Mr. John Forster, and Lord Mahon.

After the dainties of the feast were disposed of, the speech-making began; and the President, Sir Charles Eastlake, made in the course of the evening a round dozen of speeches. First he proposed the Queen; then Prince Albert; then the Royal Family—all with appropriate rhetoric. After these came the Army, and Lord Hardinge answered for the efficiency of the troops sent out under Lord Raglan; then the Navy, and Lord Hardinge, Sir James Graham being absent (his last public dinner was at the Reform Club)—replied for our tars, to whom art is a blessing, said he, because it enables the sailor to carry to sea the portrait of his loved ones. In proposing the diplomatic service, Sir Charles alluded to the absence of the Chevalier Bunsen, and a cheer of regret burst forth; but he named Lord Clarendon, who did duty for the whole of the *corps diplomatique*, and did a little stroke of diplomacy on his own account with an eye to business in Paris.

"I rejoice to see that of two great specimens of art now before me, one, an excellent portrait of the Emperor of the French, is by an English artist; and another, a portrait of English noblemen, is by a French artist, and that both are worthy to be placed side by side with that *chef-d'œuvre* in the centre (the portrait of Lord J. Russell). (Cheers.) The original of that picture of the Emperor is fond of British artists, and I know that he looks forward with infinite satisfaction to the competition by English artists in the Exhibition which is to be opened next year in Paris. He ardently hopes that they will contribute to that Exhibition, and has expressed a confident expectation that great benefit will ensue, both to French and English artists, from the competition."

The Lord Chancellor responded for the guests; praising the Exhibition; putting in a defence for our national love of portraits—they show the strength of the domestic affections.

"The use of portraits was well described by one who might call a savage. The Prince Le Boo, when his portrait was taken, was asked whether he understood the object of it. He replied, 'Oh yes; me understand it well. This Le Boo die; that Le Boo live!' (Hear, hear.) This was a commentary upon portrait painting the most appropriate that could be made."

Again the President found a tongue, this time to respond to the toast of his own health, which Lord Cranworth had proposed; and to make an adroit appeal to another distinguished guest—"the Chancellor of the Exchequer." Mr. Gladstone put not an unjust construction on the toast.

"If you allow me to state the truth," said he, "I should say that I understand the proposal of the chairman as much more than a compliment either to the individual or to the office. It was a description of parable, the meaning of which I take to be, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is considered to be the symbol of the pecuniary resources of the country (*cheers and laughter*), and that the funds of a great nation ought to be liberally dispensed for every civilizing purpose, and not least for the purposes of the fine arts. (*Cheers*.) If I have been selected as the symbol of this truth, I am glad to be the vehicle of conveying or illustrating a truth at once so obvious and so just, that it is acknowledged by all my colleagues, and acknowledged (though upon you may, perhaps, be more sceptical) even by me. (*Cheers and laughter*.) Mr. President, the position of public affairs is as you have told us, not altogether favourable. The calls upon the public purse for other and ruder purposes are heavy, and are not likely soon to diminish. At the same time I join with you in the hope that, while this great nation braces itself up for great sacrifices for the purposes of carrying on the war upon which it has entered, it will not descend to the narrow economy of stopping up all the channels through which such fertilizing influences have been dispensed, and by means of which have flourished education and the fine arts." (*Cheers*.)

Then came the incident of the evening, not uninteresting to those who love to study our Parliamentary heavies in their lighter moments, dallying in the lap of the Fine Arts. In proposing the next toast, Sir Charles Eastlake spoke thus:—

"It will be remembered by those now present that, on a former occasion—the year before last—the then Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Disraeli) invited a noble lord (Lord J. Russell) to co-operate with him in any judicious scheme that might be devised for promoting the fine arts in this country. Without alluding in any way to politics, I may mention that the relative position of the noble lord and the right hon. gentleman have been since that period changed, and I beg to express a hope that such change in their relative position will induce no alteration in the sentiments they expressed with regard to the productions of the fine arts. (*Cheers*.) It is remarkable that, on the occasion to which I refer, it was observed by Lord Derby that the right hon. gentleman appeared in this room in two places. It happened that a very striking portrait of the right hon. gentleman

then adorned these walls. I might make the same remark now with regard to the noble Lord, for it happens that a fine portrait of Lord John Russell is opposite to me, and I could almost fancy it looking at it that I am addressing his Lordship himself. Still referring to the hope that the distinguished originals of these fine portraits have not altered their opinion on the subject that interests us, I beg to give 'The health of Lord J. Russell and of Mr. Disraeli.' (Cheers, and great laughter.)

Lord J. Russell.—"I rise to answer for my part in the toast that your president has proposed, and permit me to say that, though no change has taken place in the sentiments that I then professed towards the right hon. gentleman whose name has been coupled with my own, and although political opposition has never produced between us the slightest personal ill-will, while, on the contrary, I shall always be glad to see that eminent talents like his receive that need of approbation and support which it ought to receive in a free country like our own; yet, you will permit me to observe that, as far as politics are concerned, you, Sir, certainly have produced a somewhat violent contrast. (Laughter.) I miss entirely those tender tints which are so remarkably characteristic of your president (*continued laughter*) in his pictures, which reflect so well the delicacy of feeling and refinement of mind that belong to him. But he has departed very far from his own style of colouring on this occasion, and has produced the most violent contrasts—(laughter)—somewhat in the style of the pictures exhibited in the earlier years of the Royal Academy, when it was not unfrequent for distinguished artists on the last days before the opening of the Exhibition to throw in some violent reds or tawdry yellows in order to make their pictures seen and remarked by the crowd. You must, therefore, excuse me if, while I pay, as I am bound to pay, every sort of respect to the gentleman whose name is coupled with my own, I must still say that, with regard to our political opinions, that harmony which ought to distinguish your president as a painter has hardly been maintained. (Laughter.) In one respect, however, there has been a point of agreement between myself and the right hon. gentleman. Both of us have had the honour of having our resemblances painted by a distinguished artist, and we have become the illustrations of the anecdote mentioned by the Lord Chancellor. Instead of the Le Boo that dies, we shall leave behind us the Le Boo that will never die. We have both of us had the good fortune to have our resemblances painted with very great success by a man whose talent I honour and whose friendship I have the happiness to enjoy. (Cheers.) I am glad to avail myself of this opportunity to pay this eminent artist the tribute of my regard and gratitude for the honour that has been done to me, and in that sentiment I sympathise, and certainly agree with the right hon. gentleman." (Cheers.)

Mr. Disraeli.—"Mr. President, my Lords, and Gentlemen, —I have on several occasions had the opportunity, through your kindness, of entering these chambers on this anniversary, and have always been struck with the triumphs of art and the triumphs of design and colouring, but I was not aware that rhetoric would achieve in these rooms triumphs as singular; because your president has achieved a wonderful feat of oratory in the toast that he has proposed for your acceptance and approbation. I was glad to anticipate that the noble Lord would have answered for me, for I know from experience the great difficulty of following the noble lord. (Lord's laughter.) I did, therefore, flatter myself that this once I might count upon being exempted from fulfilling so arduous a task. I hope it will not be considered an affectation if I assure you that I feel honoured in having my name associated with a celebrated artist and a famous statesman. It must have been the inspiration of a genial moment when the president hazarded such a union. But I am not entitled to such a distinction, and I am reminded of the Persian fable that when a piece of clay was asked how it happened that he had so fragrant a perfume, he replied that he had the good fortune of living in the vicinity of roses. The president has connected my career with the noble Lord and the distinguished artist who has sent him down to posterity, and has made me remembered for a short time. I am obliged to the noble Lord for the complimentary terms in which he has referred to me this evening. It has been my fortune for many years to sit opposite, as I do this evening, to the noble Lord, and I may say with truth that I have never seen him look better than he does this evening in the Royal Academy (this allusion to the noble Lord's portrait was received with much laughter and cheering), and I think I may be entitled to be considered a judge of the noble Lord's countenance, for I have had the opportunity of watching him for 17 years under various circumstances. (Laughter.) I have seen him in the elation of triumph, and I do not think that I have ever seen him of a better figure and appearance than I see him this evening. (Cheers and laughter.) This is a peculiarity of this distinguished artist, whose name will go down to posterity, although one whom he has condescended to select for a proof of his skill may not be so fortunate. And I may truly say with regard to the noble Lord, that I hope he may long look as well in his place in Parliament as he does upon the walls of the Royal Academy."

Nor was this the only mirthful phase of the evening. It came to be Lord Palmerston's turn to speak of course. The President, in proposing his health, thanked him for the smoke consumption act of last session—a boon to architecture and sculpture. Lord Palmerston, loudly cheered, said:—

"Mr. President, my Lords, and Gentlemen.—It could hardly be expected, at a moment when so dark a cloud was lowering over the face of Europe, that the unwholesome cloud that has lowered over the surface of London should have attracted the notice that you have been pleased to give to the subject. But, in such an assembly as this, in which I see collected some of the most eminent artists in Europe, it is natural that you should draw attention to a circumstance deeply affecting the works of their genius. Mr. President, that which the Government of which I have the honour to be a member accomplished last year was merely altering the manner of doing a thing. The consumption of

smoke was no novelty—it had been going on for ages—but the consumption of smoke had been going on in our lungs instead of in our chimneys. (*Laughter and cheers.*) That which we proposed and which Parliament agreed to was only this, that the smoke should vanish in our chimneys instead of blackening our insides. (*Continued laughter.*) It had long been a subject of great grief to those who visited London to think that from that vast volume of carbon which was perpetually floating over our heads, all the finest works of ancient art, and the productions of modern genius, whether of our painters, our sculptors, or our architects, were doomed to receive rapid accumulations, hiding their merits and defacing their beauties. (*Cheers.*) If we could at any time rejoice at the prospect of the removal of this inconvenience, it is now, when we see around us so many beautiful productions of modern genius, and feel what a calamity it would be if in the course of a short period all the lights of the pictures we see before us were destined to become shadows, and all the shadows black darkness, and if their beauties were hid from view by a daily deposit of those abominable blacks which used to greet us when we put our heads out of the window. I thank you for advertising to the slight service I may have been able to render to works of art, and I hope the bill of last session may be considered as having contributed in some small measure to the preservation of works of art and genius." (*Cheers.*)

The other speakers were Lord Mahon and Mr. Cardwell. About ten o'clock the brilliant assembly went its way.

#### ROYAL LITERARY FUND.

THE institution for the relief of distressed authors, known as the Royal Literary Fund, has now flourished for sixty-five years; and on Wednesday, Lord Mahon presiding, a goodly company assembled at the Albion, in Aldersgate-street, to dine together in honour of its attaining that respectable age, and to listen to the customary annual oration on the blessings, delights, and pains of literature from the chair. Among those present were the son and grandson of Tippoo Saib, Lord Stanley, Sir Erskine Perry, General Pasley, Sir Henry Ellis, Mr. R. W. Greg, and Mr. H. Stevens of the United States.

In performing the customary and pleasant ceremony of making a speech on literature, *apropos* of "Prosperity to the Literary Fund," Lord Mahon touched on the usual topics suggested by the occasion, opening with some remarks on the advantages a meeting like that afforded for the friendly communion of different classes of literary men.

"He might observe that a poet who should live only with poets, a novelist who should live only with novelists, an historian who should live only with historians, would acquire but a very slight and imperfect knowledge of the great field of literature in which there were so many labourers. He thought that by a friendly communion of different classes of writers in a meeting like the present, they were each of them enabled to form a juster appreciation of the merits of the rest. But it was not merely the different classes of literary men that were brought together at a meeting like this. It had also the advantage of eliciting the sympathy of various nations. They saw among them to-night not Englishmen merely, but men who had come from the furthest regions of the earth, all ready like themselves to testify, by taking part in this meeting, their love and their respect for literature. He saw among them the natives, he could not say of a foreign country, for that description would not apply to India, but of a distant country, who had been willing by their presence to show that no distance of place, no difference of race, could disperse those who felt a love for literature. (*Cheers.*) They also numbered among them many citizens of that grand commonwealth beyond the Atlantic, to which we were bound by so many ties of interest as well as of language, the strength of which must in the end always overpower any temporary estrangement that might occur between the two countries. (*Cheers.*) As regarded the United States, we might say, not merely that their literature and our own were kindred and allied, but that in many respects they were one and the same, for he believed he was not wrong in asserting that an accomplished American would take as much pride in the renown of Shakespeare and of Milton, and would consider them as much a mark of his national greatness, as we did ourselves; and, even if we looked to those men of letters who had arisen on the other side of the Atlantic since the separation of the United States from this country, we should find that as much pleasure and delight had been derived from their productions upon this as upon the other side of the Atlantic. In proof of this, he need only refer to the warm reception which only last year had been given with so much reason to the illustrious Thackeray; and he need only ask, if a single Englishman who now heard him had not derived gratification from reading the admirable pictures of English life contained in the writings of Washington Irving? Although an American by birth and by family, he had yet imbued himself with many European scenes, and Lord Mahon remembered him with much pleasure as his friend and fellow-traveller in Spain. He therefore thought it was a great advantage that these meetings should give an opportunity of union to those who were no strangers to each other in feeling, and who only desired to become better acquainted with each other in order to increase their mutual friendship and regard."

He enlarged on the intimate connexion of greatness of all kinds with literature and knowledge, and described the institution as one not intended to encourage bad authorship, but to aid good authors who had failed to secure due reward from the public. Lord Stanley followed up the same theme, instancing the close connexion between literature and politics in Lord John Russell, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Disraeli, and Lord Mahon.

The treasurer announced that grants to the

amount of 1490*l.* had been distributed during the last year among 37 persons—of whom 31 were gentlemen, and 16 were ladies—and read a long list of donations, including those of 100 guineas from the Queen (17th year), 20 guineas from the chairman (4th donation), and 10 guineas from the Duke of Somerset, the Earl of Ellenborough, the Earl of Ellesmere, Mr. Macaulay, Mr. Hallam, and others.

#### THE FRIENDS OF POLAND.

The Literary Association of the friends of Poland held its annual meeting on Wednesday. Among those present were the Earls of Harrowby and Harrington, the Marquis of Bredalbane, Lord Beaumont, Sir Benjamin Hall, Sir J. V. Shelley, Colonel Freestun, Mr. J. Abel Smith, Mr. Fox Strangways, Mr. Moneckton Milnes, Captain Townsend, Mr. Alderman Salomons, Mr. Silk Buckingham, the High Bailiff of Southwark, Lieut.-Colonel Szulczevski, and a number of Poles. Lord Dudley Stuart presided.

Mr. Birkbeck, the honorary secretary, read the report, which reviewed the principal events of the past year bearing upon the interests and prospects of the refugees and of their cause. Referring to the Eastern question, it explained the steps which had been taken for the formation of a Polish legion commanded by Polish officers, and fighting under the national banner, in the service of the Sultan. For that purpose a correspondence had taken place between the Turkish Ministers and Prince Adam Czartorisky, and subsequently Lord Dudley Stuart had proceeded to the East to facilitate its accomplishment. The scheme had encountered, until recently, the opposition of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, on the ground of his anxiety to conciliate Austria. This opposition was now, however, withdrawn, and the report announced that within a few weeks the flag of Poland would be once more raised against Russia. At no period had the prospects of restoring their nationality appeared more bright than at present. The Czar had given the signal for war, and proved himself the disturber, and not the consolidator of the peace of Europe. The weakness of the German Powers in resisting his ambitious policy had also been clearly demonstrated, and it was becoming every day more strongly manifested that the restoration of Poland was a political necessity. The Poles desired to hold their rightful possessions by no better title than that of guarding the civilisation of the West against renewed incursions of Eastern barbarism. From the financial statement embodied in the report, the recent dinner in aid of the funds of the association would appear to have answered its object thoroughly, having realised 900*l.*, wherewith to meet the expenses of the current year.

On the motion of Mr. Moneckton Milnes, seconded by Lord Harrowby, it was resolved "That, in the present condition of Europe, nothing short of a full consideration of the just claims of Poland will afford adequate security for the maintenance of the balance of power therein, and for the establishment of a satisfactory and lasting peace."

Lord Dudley Stuart spoke on the Eastern question, and the relations of the Poles therewith.

"The Cabinets of Europe still regarded the re-establishment of Poland as an event too great and dazzling to be looked to, but his conviction was that the course of the war would prove it to be necessary. Governments were already, step after step, compelled to take unexpected views of their situation. The formation of a Polish legion did not at first meet with the approbation of the Allied Powers. It was the opinion of Lord Palmerston that it would be wise for Turkey to enrol a Polish legion, but he was not the head of the Government. On Lord Dudley Stuart's visit to the East he found the Turkish Ministry all willing and ready to employ the aid of the Poles, who were united with them in a common hatred of Russia; but they were withheld from doing so by the representations of the ambassadors. It was not long, however, before the French Government saw the error they were committing, and the French Ambassador gave the measure his support. So completely, also, had our own Government become favourable to it, that official despatches had been addressed to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, directing him to give all his aid to the formation of a Polish legion. The Government of this country were now sensible of the advantage to Turkey of employing Poles in the service, and had given directions for a large supply of arms, to be placed at the disposal of the commander of the British forces for the use of a Polish legion. That legion was likely, therefore, soon to be formed, and he had no doubt that, animated by patriotic sentiments, when it came in contact with the soldiers of the Czar, it would give a good account of them. He was anxious that all the Poles who were able to do so should place their swords at the disposal of the Sultan. Many of them might prefer to serve directly under England or France, and he admitted that it would be preferable, but they would go on by degrees; and by-and-by the Government of this country might be induced to take more direct steps for availing itself of the services of the Poles. In resisting Russia in any way they were paving the way for the restoration of their country."

Lord Dudley Stuart disclaimed, on behalf of the Polish nation, "the visionary projects of the Red Republic."

Lord Beaumont announced during the meeting, amidst loud cheers, the news conveyed by the third edition of the *Times* of the victory achieved by Omar Pasha over General Lüders.

## MAY MEETINGS.

THE numerous meetings which always occur in the merry month of May have already commenced. The Church Missionary Society held its annual meeting, on Tuesday, Lord Chichester in the chair. In the course of his speech he remarked that the present war is a chastisement inflicted on nations for their sins. With regard to the funds and operations of this society, the report affords some interesting statistics. Its total income last year was no less than £123,915., an increase of £2983. over that of last year. But it falls short of the expenditure, £131,783., and leaves a deficit of nearly £868. The society has 118 stations, 1661 teachers of all classes; and in all its stations throughout the world last year there were 107,000 attendants at the services.

The British and Foreign Bible Society, celebrating its anniversary on Wednesday, under the presidency of Lord Shaftesbury, also brings to light some curious statistics. The receipts for the year ending March 31, 1854, had been for the jubilee objects, £6,507.; and for the million, Chinese Testament fund, £30,485. Under the head of general receipts there were, for Bibles and Testaments, £6,009.; and general purposes, £59,656.; total, £125,665., or an aggregate amount of £222,659. The increase in the receipts was more than £16,000. as compared with the preceding year, and £8226. as compared with any previous year. During the year the society had issued no fewer than 1,367,528 copies of the Bible at home and abroad, making the total number since the commencement of the society to be 27,938,631!

The Governesses' Benevolent Institution celebrated the eleventh year of its age, on Wednesday, by a great dinner at the London Tavern. Since it was founded this institution has relieved 3300 governesses; and has provided sixty with small but certain incomes. The provident fund now amounts to £108,000. invested in Government Securities. A testimonial, well-deserved, was presented to the Reverend David Laing. The sum of £60. had been subscribed; but Mr. Laing declined to accept more than £100.—the remainder to be invested for the institution.

The annual meeting of the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control, was held in Finsbury Chapel, on Wednesday, Mr. Aspasia Pellatt in the chair. The principal resolution carried at the meeting was this, proposed by Dr. Archer, who ably put the case of the dissenters:—

"That, regarding the liberation of religion from State patronage and control as of primary importance, this meeting rejoices at the improved position and prospects of the society existing for that object, and earnestly trusts that, strengthened by accessions to its ranks and an augmentation of its resources, it may prosecute its enterprise with growing energy and success."

Lord Shaftesbury, the most indefatigable of modern chairmen, presided over the twelfth annual meeting of the Field-lane Ragged School, on Wednesday. At this institution upwards of 2000 little ragged fellows have received some education since its commencement; but the chairman rightly remarked that little good can be done while these poor children leave the school for pestilential homes, unlearning there what they had been taught. In the Night Refuge, attached to the school, 26,399 persons slept last year.

The Protestant Alliance does not seem to flourish. At the annual meeting on Thursday, Lord Shaftesbury in the chair, the balance-sheet showed a deficit of £263.; income £936., expenditure £1199.

The London City Mission, however, seems a more prosperous concern. Last year they raised an income of £27,484.; an increase of £10,000.; over the preceding year; their missionaries made 1,439,380 "visits," and distributed no less than 1,931,705 tracts.

## THE LANCASHIRE LABOUR-BATTLE.

(From our Correspondent.)

Preston, Thursday.

THE accounts which I have given latterly of the failing funds of the Unionists will have prepared the far-sighted for the speedy termination of the struggle. Money, the sinews of all war, is of course absolutely essential to the further progress of such a battle as this has been, and when the combatants on one side have been living from hand to mouth, the stoppage of supplies must be immediately followed by a cessation of hostilities. For some weeks past those who have had the welfare of the workpeople more at heart than the empty glory of a victory, which must have been injurious to all, have earnestly advised the abandonment of the battle while yet the funds were undiminished. This counsel, however, was disregarded, and the employers have now certainly good warrant for asserting that the operatives have been reduced to an absolute inability to hold out any longer.

At the customary meeting of delegates from all the districts, held on Sunday last, at which it has been heretofore usual to make public delivery of the sums brought in, it was obvious that there was something wrong, for, after the meeting had been opened, the

delegate for Padiham moved its adjournment, in order that the delegates might have a private consultation. On Monday morning a meeting of the operatives was called by the weavers' committee, and then the murder was out. Mr. Baxendale, the chairman, made a speech reviewing the entire struggle, and, after referring to the Stockport strike, and the threatened reduction of wages at Blackburn, he told the people frankly that funds were not forthcoming in sufficient plenty to warrant a continuance of the struggle. Mr. Cowell then took up the tale, and pronounced an elegy over the ten per cent. battle:—

"Though it may be said (said he) that we, on the present occasion, have suffered a defeat, let me tell you, my respected friends, that had it not been for this agitation, which we are now bringing to a close, I feel perfectly satisfied that the operatives of Preston, Blackburn, Stockport, Manchester, and every other manufacturing town in the kingdom, would at this time have been working at a reduction of ten per cent. I believe we have prevented a reduction taking place for the next ten years, and that, if ever the time should come when another reduction is contemplated, it will never come under the denomination of a ten per cent. That cry has so often resounded in the ears of the manufacturers of Preston that they will for ever be disgusted when they hear the name of 'ten per cent.' mentioned. While we now advise you to return to your employment, rest assured that whenever a reaction takes place in the commercial affairs of this country, the telling-note shall again be sounded in Preston, 'Ten per cent. and no surrender.' But you, the working bees of Preston, of Blackburn, and of other towns and districts, must be prepared for the emergency, and whenever the demand is made, if we have a good fund at our back, it is my decided conviction that the employers will give the advance rather than risk another turn-out. I have a word of advice to give to the masters of Preston. When two contending armies meet, and one has proved successful, I would ask the employers of Preston to reflect whether it would be right for the victorious army to pursue the enemy after they have grounded their arms, and ride roughshod over them? I hope the employers will take this advice. Now that we have withdrawn from the field, I hope and trust they will be willing to open their gates and let you resume your work. Cheer up, lads and lasses. My heart is as warm in the cause as it was the first day I sounded my voice for the ten per cent." In conclusion, the speaker urged his hearers, when they got to work, to contribute 1d. each per week, in order that they might raise a fund which would enable them at some future time to gain the object in struggling for which they had now been defeated.

This address was received with the marked approbation and sympathy of the multitude.

In the forenoon of Monday the following address informed the public of the final intention of the weavers' committee:—

## "TO THE TRADES AND PEOPLE OF BRITAIN.

"Friends and fellow-countrymen,—We, the undersigned members of the executive committee of the Power-loom Weavers' Association, beg to inform you that a combination of circumstances renders it imperatively necessary that we should lay before you the position of the Preston weavers.

"The successful termination of the late strike at Stockport, which was immediately followed by an advance of wages in Blackburn and other places, led us and the factory-workers of Preston to believe that the employers were in a position to give a similar advance, which was conceded by thirty-two of the employers, but was afterwards taken off through the refusal of four employers to follow the praiseworthy example of the great majority of the trade. After a thirty-six weeks' struggle we are obliged to bring the contest to a temporary close.

"We have been compelled to adopt this alternative by the universal combination of the employers, whose paid agents have swept the three kingdoms for the means of destruction to the Preston operatives. These hirelings have been assisted in the circulation of their nefarious misrepresentations by a powerful but unscrupulous press, and by the miscalled *guardians of the poor*, who have emptied their workhouses of all that could crawl from the gates.

"The employers have been further assisted in their unholy crusade by the recent proceedings of a portion of the overseers, who have lent or sold themselves to the employers to circulate through the country false statements respecting the position of Preston, which have had the effect of curtailing the amount of subscriptions in those towns where their misrepresentations have been made. Coupled with these obstacles, the Eastern war and the high price of provisions have operated as insurmountable difficulties in the continuation of the power-loom weavers' struggle. The operatives have, therefore, been advised to resume work until a more favourable opportunity; as the time will come when ten per cent. will be granted to the operatives which is now unjustly, and by might, withheld from them.

"In conclusion, we beg that you will carry out the following resolution, passed by the central committee at their meeting held on Sunday last:—'That the executive of the Weavers' Association draw up an address to the country, stating the reasons that have brought the Preston strike to a conclusion, and soliciting the working classes to subscribe to support those whom the manufacturers have thrown upon the streets, and to pay off any engagements the executive have entered into.'

(Here follow the signatures of the committee.)

The funds subscribed for the relief of the weavers were sufficient to admit of a payment of half-a-crown a head being made, but the weavers were not disposed to content themselves with that pittance, and it therefore seemed best to the committee to close the agitation, and devote future subscriptions to the discharge of their liabilities, which are heavy. In spite of the failure of other bodies, the spinners,

whose funds, as I stated in my last, are very considerable, have resolved to continue the battle, and give expression to their intentions in the following address, which appears at the head of this week's balance-sheet:—

"Friends and fellow-workmen,—Whilst we have, during the last seven months, been pursuing this struggle in behalf and minders of England, other branches of factory labor have been maintaining their struggles for a fair reward for their toil—the thrusters, the card-room hands, and the weavers. All these branches have, through the pressure of circumstances, been compelled to abandon, *for the present*, the contest; and the spinners and minders are now left alone to contend with the united capital of the three manufacturing counties, for that which we held to be our right in the first report we issued, and now assert to be our right in this, the thirty-first report, namely, a just remuneration for our labour. Persuaded that our claims are founded upon reason and justice, having at all times been willing to have our cause to an honourable arbitration, and to abide faithfully by the issue, and having taken the initiative in every step that could lead to a fair and permanent settlement of the dispute with our late employers to no effect, we are determined now, as on the first day we were locked out, to obtain by fair and peaceable means that for which we have so long, so earnestly, and so honourably contended. This resolution to persevere in our demand was passed unanimously at the most numerous meeting yet held in Preston of persons connected with the spinning and minding branch, on Monday last, and is in entire accordance with the wishes of the various districts which have so nobly supported us; and to those districts, as well as to the public generally, we take this opportunity of tendering our grateful thanks, and trust they will still assist us in our efforts to obtain, whilst acting in conformity with 'peace, law, and order,' that advance to which we have an undeniable right."

The resolutions referred to were passed at a meeting of the whole body of the Preston spinners, held at the Albion Inn on Monday afternoon, and are to the following effect:—

"That we, the spinners and self-actor minders of Preston, pledge ourselves to stand by the committee under every circumstance.

"That we, the spinners and self-actor minders of Preston, do hereby pledge ourselves not to resume work until we have gained our object; i. e., the same prices we had previous to being locked out, or the average of the trade.

"That we tender our sincere thanks to the public and trades of the country for their liberal support, and beg a continuance of the same during the remainder of the struggle, and especially acknowledge the noble exertions of the Amalgamated Committee of Trades."

From their balance-sheet it appears that the spinners have this week had a surplus of £60,92,10d., which they have carried over to their fund, or *Inexhaustible Box*, as they term it; which certainly does not look like a failure of funds. To test the feeling of the body, shop-meetings of the spinners and minders were held yesterday, and the result was such as to throw out no hope of a speedy surrender of the agitation on their part.

The Amalgamated Committee, which receives, as I have before stated, the moneys subscribed by the general public, gives its approbation and support to the course resolved upon by the spinners; giving the following reasons for believing that the body will be ultimately victorious:—

"In the first place, the 'Associated Masters' cannot procure unskilled labourers and make them into workers at that branch any more than they could make similar hands into engineers, machinists, or any other branch of trade requiring a servitude of apprenticeship. In the next place, the spinners, &c., are a body united for years past with their brethren throughout the manufacturing districts, who at the present time are contributing largely towards the support of the Preston operatives. Lastly, from the resumption of labour at the opening of the mills up to the present time, there are only to be found about twenty spinners and piecers at work, the majority of whom are strangers, although their body numbers to the extent of about 3000 members."

In representing it as difficult to educate skilled spinners, I have reason to believe that the Unionists are mistaken. I know it to be a fact that many manufacturers have taken advantage of the stoppage of their mills to substitute self-acting mules for common mules; and that they are fast teaching piecers to manage these machines.

Anticipating the future conduct of the agitation, the Amalgamated Committee says:—

"We have been credibly informed that the noble people of Blackburn feel greatly aggrieved at the abrupt and unfortunate termination of the weavers' strike at Preston. We understand that they have been induced to flag in their support of the people of Preston, in consequence of the misrepresentations of the card-room hands, and the untrue reports of persons who, we believed, were friends of the weavers' cause; and now, discovering the real state of the case, they are determined to rally once more around the brave men of Preston, and aid them in fighting the battle of Labour."

"Before taking leave for the present it is here necessary to state that the liabilities of the weavers' committee will be continued, the agitation of their own districts will be continued for a time longer. There being also about two or three thousand unable to resume work, in consequence of the spinners not returning to their employment on the masters' terms; and should the spinners remain out, of which there can be little doubt, the great probability is that large numbers of the weavers already employed will be again forced

out, which will in all likelihood produce a reaction favourable to the cause at present partially prostrated. The most pleasing feature in our estimate of the weavers' proceedings at the present moment is, that they are making every arrangement for the organisation of a proper and effective union, that will henceforth prove effective under similar circumstances, like unto those under which they have been so recently placed; one of the principal features of which will be the establishment of co-operation in the establishment of workshops for self-employment."

The Amalgamated Committee includes in its accounts £71. received from the United States by way of *Reynolds's Newspaper*, and this is stated to be "the first instalment of a continued support," but by what body in the United States this money is subscribed does not appear.

All things considered, I do not think that the spinners will persevere in their present resolution to continue the contest. A consciousness of their power to do so may, perhaps, be very gratifying to their self-pride; but I do not doubt that on a calmer consideration of the present state of trade, and, above all, the knowledge that they, and they only, are the means of keeping some thousands of starving card-room hands out of work, will have the effect of bringing about a more pacific state of things.

Generally speaking the resumption of work has passed off on both sides with perfect good humour, and (highly to the credit of the employers be it said) in some cases the operatives have been received with cordiality. In some cases a joke on both sides concluded the business; in others, money was given to celebrate the return to work with a little merry-making. I understand that some of the employers have discharged a few of the raw and inexperienced hands who have lately been pressed into their service, in order to make room for the return of the old ones. One master, on receiving his old weavers, said: "Well, so you're back again, eh?" "Aye, master; but it's only for a bit." "I think" (said he, very justly) "it'll be for a long bit." So far as I have been able to ascertain, fewer ebullitions of feeling have been exhibited by the old hands against the "knobsticks" than might have been anticipated.

One case, which has come to my hearing, stands, I should hope, alone. When the old hands had turned them, who were requested to sign their names in a book, which was stated to contain nothing more than an agreement to give a fortnight's notice before quitting. When this was done, the manager informed them that they had signed an agreement not to support the Union; whereupon the hands indignantly declared that they would turn out again and support any consequences rather than be victimised by such a fraud. If this be true, it certainly was a most scandalous and contemptible stratagem. Although still in a most deplorable state as to finances, the card-room hands have also resolved to continue the struggle. Living on the poor pittance of a shilling a head, and such alms as they can get by promiscuous begging, they continue to make the most earnest appeals to their fellows. "We feel confident (say they) when you take our lamentable situation into your consideration, that you will not desert us now after the spirit we have displayed during the last thirty-six weeks." In spite, however, of these confident professions, I am inclined to believe that the strike of the card-room hands is entirely dependent upon that of the spinners, and will terminate directly that important body resumes work, until which time their services are altogether useless, and, indeed, cannot be accepted by the employers.

Matters at Stockport hasten to their conclusion: the spinners only are opposed to a settlement.

The reduction at Blackburn is yet uncertain, but the weavers there, at a meeting held last Tuesday, resolved upon a levy of 3d. per loom in support of Preston.

The following article we copy from the *Coventry Herald*. It is no breach of confidence to say that we trace the hand of manufacturer in that town, practised in the masterly treatment of philosophical and economical subjects:—

"In thirty years' time, perhaps, freedom of trade, and the material and mechanical agencies now at work, will have made the monstrous absurdity of war so evident to all, that it will have become an impossibility. Whatever may be the interest of kings and dynasties, the true interest of nations is not conquest, but the development of their own internal resources. We may still have to fight for nationalities and freedom, against dynasties and absolutism, but when these are established, a people would not throw away its wealth in war. But when kings have done fighting for power and aggrandisement, and family interest, is there no other battle to be fought? Yes, the people have their own battle to fight. Hitherto, they have only been 'villains,' serfs, bondsmen, the 'common sort,' the beasts of burden of the rich, the 'hands' of the 'capitalist and millionaire,' or

"The tools,

By myriads, when they dare to pave their way With human hearts—to what?—a dream alone."

Whoever reads the age aright, must see that its march is towards democracy and the much-dreaded Socialism. Democracy, with its motto, 'the people, the legitimate source of all power';—Socialism, or universal brotherhood, with its war upon exclusive and unjust privilege, however, or upon whatever plea, acquired. The present anti Christian separa-

tion of castes, and great inequality of condition, must give way before the increased enlightenment of the people, for they will insist upon a more equal and just division of the joint produce. Capital hitherto has had unjust advantages over labour, and the workman has not been properly paid. 'A fair day's wage for a fair day's work,' is the demand of the operative. Such a demand is all nonsense, says the political economist;—what the workman will receive for his day's work must depend upon the law of supply and demand. If there are too many labourers for the work to be done, wages must fall, say they; if too few, wages must rise—if labour is plentiful, it, like all other things, will be cheap; if scarce, dear. Very true; but who or what is to determine whether there are too few or too many workmen—whether labour is plentiful or scarce? A strike is simply a difference of opinion between master and men upon this very point, and a stoppage of work till they can agree. The master has hitherto had the strongest of arguments on his side—viz., 'You men shall starve if you do not agree with me.' In the contests of labour with capital, the capitalist has always something to fall back upon; the labourer, ordinarily, must agree to terms, or starve. This is an unequal contest, and when urged against single men, or the operatives of some particular district, it has always been successful. In disputes about wages, or the true value of labour, the workmen ought to be put upon an equality with the masters, and this can only be effected by their having a fund, like them, to fall back upon while any dispute or strike is going on. This the men have discovered, and propose to raise a fund for the purpose, by a combination of all workmen throughout the kingdom; those in work to subscribe a small sum weekly towards the maintenance of others out of work in consequence of such dispute. This is but fair; the only fear is, lest this power should be misused by ignorant workmen becoming the tools of interested and designing men. This labour-battle has lasted at Preston for seven-and-thirty weeks, and several hundred thousand pounds have been wasted in the strife; and all because the principle has not been properly admitted that the rate of wages ought to be a fair bargain between master and man. Whether the masters can or cannot afford the 10 per cent., or whether they ought to pay it, has never been properly argued. We must not be beaten, say the masters,—if we are, the workmen will soon abuse their powers and our capital, or, at least, our profits will never be safe. We must not give in, say the workmen, for our demand of the 10 per cent. is a just demand, or, at least, no effort has yet been made to show us that it is not. Originally, that is, at the commencement of the dispute, we think the men were wrong, as they very frequently are in such cases. Latterly, however, we think the masters wrong. The men expressed their willingness to submit their case to arbitration, or to take the average wages of the cotton district; both these offers were refused by the masters, who would be satisfied with nothing but the unqualified submission of the men. They were fighting, they said, for the mastership of their own mills. This time last year the country was in a very different condition to what it is at present. Plentiful harvests, free trade, increased trade, emigration, had made labour scarce, and there was a general rise of wages throughout the country in consequence; and had the Preston operatives demanded their 10 per cent. at that time, they probably would have got it without a turn-out, but they waited till the time was past in which the masters could afford to pay it. They waited till the increased price of provisions, consequent on scarcity here and abroad, had made trade bad. So much more was paid for provisions that all manufactures were less wanted, and labour was in proportionately less demand. The operatives had no sense to see this, and their contest, and all the trying sacrifices they have made, have consequently all been made in vain. We think this contest need not have been so prolonged if a proper spirit had been shown by the masters. It has been a fight, on their part, entirely for mastery. We are not aware that they have ever descended to reason with the men, and to show why they refused their demands; they have never yet fully admitted that the rate of wages must be a fair bargain between master and men. The masters object to combination among the men; but such a combination is the only thing that puts the workmen in a condition to make a fair bargain. So long as the master can say to his workmen, 'Take what I offer, or starve,' the bargain is very likely to be made slightly in his own favour. But the workmen no sooner begins to feel the increased power that combination gives him, than he talks of Labour Parliaments, and of sharing the profits as well as being paid his wages. This, to all masters at present, is rank Socialism, a thing hitherto unheard of, and to be resisted at all costs. The present arrangement, with respect to wages, has existed so long, that it is thought to be a natural law, and society it is supposed could not exist without it. But if work were plentiful enough, and labour scarce enough for the workmen to insist upon sharing the profits, there is nothing unjust in itself in the demand; it is only uncouth because labour has hitherto been in such excess, that capital has had all its own way and made its own terms. In a live or working factory, the capital may be said to represent the blood, the master the head, and the workmen the body and hands, and all parts are equally necessary to the efficient working. Suppose them all met for the first time—500 men and a capitalist—to decide the terms upon which they should work together. If the men, being the majority, were to say, we will allow you 5 per cent. for your capital, and 300/- a-year for your *head work*, in superintendence, and you shall pay us 15s. per week, for our less difficult *hand work*, and the rest of the year, after a fund has been reserved for future contingent losses, whatever profit shall result from our joint produce shall be divided equally between us, we cannot see that there would be anything *unjust* in the proposition. It might, however, be *unreasonable*; for the master would say, there are plenty of workpeople besides yourself who at present are not receiving 15s. per week, and they will doubtless be willing to work for wages alone, without sharing the profits afterwards, and therefore I must decline your services. If, however, this factory required to be established in Australia at the present time, or in California, or in the back woods of America,

or in any place where the 500 hands were all that could be procured, the master capitalist might not only be disposed to admit the perfect justice of the division, but be glad to make so good a bargain for himself. The workpeople of this country, by a combination among themselves, might perhaps be able to place capitalist in that position that he could get no hands who would work without a share of the profits, as well as wages; but if this were possible, what would be the consequence? Why, unless their combination extended to the whole world, as well as to this country, the capitalist would, in all probability, be able to find workmen elsewhere, in some other country, who would work for wages alone; and he would take himself and his capital off to that country, and leave the 'hands' here to starve. It is time that capitalists began to look this question fairly and boldly in the face; the demand for a more equal share of the joint produce is a just one on the part of the workmen, and although in the present relation between capital and labour, to insist upon sharing profits would undoubtedly be his ruin, yet, in one form or other, the demand will continue to be made, till circumstances shall at length make it impossible to refuse it. The labour-battle has to be fought; much is to be feared from the ignorance and prejudice of the workmen, but let the master be prepared to act his part wisely. He has beaten the workmen now, for they were wrong in demanding an increase of wages in a failing market, and their funds failing they have again been starved into submission; but the time is at hand when it will probably be his turn to be beaten."

#### COLLISIONS AT SEA: THE ERCOLANO.

ONE of those events which, when adequately recounted, make so deep an impression, occurred off the coast of Italy, last week; and one not adequately accounted in the Channel this week—collision at sea ending with the sinking of a ship and the loss of lives. The steamer *Ercolano*, when off the coast between Nice and the Antilles, was struck by the steamer *Sicilia*, and went down, causing the loss of forty-eight lives. As the incident is narrated by two of the survivors, we know some of the particulars. Mr. Charles Sansom, a passenger, had supped with Sir Robert Peel. About midnight he left his friend and went on deck to smoke a cigar. To his surprise, there was not one of the crew on deck except the man at the helm. He observed lights in the distance, making for the ship, and mentioned the fact, but the helmsman took no heed. A few moments after there was a shock, the masts of the *Ercolano* fell, the vessel went down by the stern, a scene of horrible confusion followed, Mr. Sansom jumped into a boat with two sailors, cries of agony rang around from out the rolling waves, and the ship had disappeared. Here is an account of the scene by M. Claris, one of the passengers:—

"We left Genoa on the 24th, at twenty minutes to three o'clock; the weather was moderate, and the sea became calmer as we quitted the Gulf. At ten minutes before midnight we were struck by the steamer *Sicilia* on the larboard side, between the paddle-box and the stern. The blow came with such force that the *Ercolano* was nearly cut in two; the water entered in torrents, the fires of the engines were instantly extinguished, and the vessel enveloped in steam. All this was the work of a few seconds. At that awful moment I was smoking a cigar below. I rushed on the deck, and saw the vessel rapidly going down by the stern. To describe the scene that followed is impossible; women and children screaming—fathers seeking their children—husbands making desperate efforts to save their wives. Oh! I never shall forget the awful heart-breaking scenes I witnessed. The water gained and gained upon us, and at last we all went down. Fortunately I am a good swimmer, and after keeping myself above water for ten minutes, I got hold of a plank, part of the paddle-box, and ultimately was taken on board the *Sicilia*, but not before I had been upwards of an hour in the most perilous of positions."

"Sir Robert Peel was saved owing to his bravery and sang-froid. The instant the accident happened he rushed to the forecastle, stripped himself, threw himself into the sea, and swam until taken up by a boat from the *Sicilia*. Whilst swimming I saw some females rise to the surface of the water and then sink. One of them, before going down, cried out, 'Charles, Charles, my dearest Charles, save me!' This was twice or thrice repeated, and the unhappy being was launched into eternity."

"An English gentleman of the name of Knight made the most supreme efforts to save his family, but without success; and his wife, three young children, and their servant perished in his very sight. Mr. Knight, I am told, was himself badly wounded, but succeeded in escaping a watery grave. . . .

"I declare most solemnly, and in the presence of that God whom I implored when I thought my earthly career terminated, that the horrible misfortune which has plunged so many families into mourning, is owing to the criminal negligence of the two captains, neither of them being on deck at the moment of the accident; all the officers were below, and the *Ercolano* was left to the care of the steersman only. I further declare, that if the usual precaution had been taken, a simple look-out, the accident would not have happened; both vessels having their signal-lanterns alight, the sea was not running high, and the night was clear and starlight. As I said before, the ship was struck at ten minutes before midnight, and at six minutes before midnight she sank, and all was finished!"

"It is a fact, which I state with regret, that the boats of the *Sicilia* were not lowered until after the *Ercolano* had gone down. Had the crew of the *Sicilia* been more prompt, many lives might have been saved. The *Sicilia* remained on the spot about an hour and a half. She ought, in my opinion, not to have left before daybreak. The captain of the *Ercolano*, his son, and his officers, were all saved; the passengers drowned."

"Believe me, the captain has much to answer for. At the last moment, I distinctly heard the passengers call out 'Captain, captain!' but the captain came not. He was asleep in his cabin on the deck, and was first heard of when on board the *Sicilia*."

A Genoese paper says that fourteen passengers and twenty-two of the crew, including the captain and mate, were picked up by the boats of the *Sicilia*. Among the lost were Mr. Thomas Halsey, M.P., his wife, and child; and the Princess Cattaneo, from Naples. Among the saved were Mr. Charles Samson, Sir R. Peel, Mr. Charles Boston, Mr. George Wilkinson, Mr. Edward Dawnley, Mr. Edward Knight, and Mr. Charles Gresham.

In the other collision—that in the Channel off the Start—no fewer than 200 lives were lost; but there was no one among the survivors who could graphically tell the tale; and the catastrophe makes nothing like the impression it would have made had it been adequately recorded. All we know is that the *Finouire*, having on board 191 emigrants, and a crew of 14, was struck at sea, on the night of Friday last, by the *Hesper*; that the captain of the *Finouire* and four seamen, all who were on deck at the time, leaped on board the *Hesper*, and were saved, and that the *Finouire* went down with all on board.

#### THE BILL SYSTEM.

The system of bill stealing was illustrated by a case that came before the Exchequer Court this week. Sherwood, an attorney, sued a young man named Meiklham for a bill of 100*l.* The defendant, Mr. John Meiklham, was a young gentleman, the son of a person of a large fortune in Scotland, who had, at the request of a person named Elliott, entrusted to him a bill at two months for 100*l.* to be discounted for him. Elliott brought this bill to one Newcome, clerk to the firm of Vincent and Day, attorneys in Paper-buildings, in the Temple, and gave it to him on the understanding that he was to "get it done" in a few days. This was six or seven days after the date of acceptance; and Newcome and his brother, who kept a betting-office, gave Elliott 11*l.* as a loan to himself, but he understood that was to go out of the bill. Newcome returned the bill to Elliott eleven days before it was due, and Elliott brought it to a man of the name of Welshman, who refused to discount it at so short a date. Elliott then returned the bill to Newcome. He denied that he had ever heard of Sherwood, except that he was an attorney, and that Newcome said that if Mr. Meiklham would become a client of Sherwood's he might have what money he wanted. Nothing more was heard of the bill until Sherwood wrote a letter to Meiklham, stating that he held an overdue acceptance of his, had sued the drawer, and obtained judgment against him, but was now obliged to proceed against the acceptor. The Court called upon the plaintiff to prove the consideration.

Mr. Petersdorff addressed the jury for the plaintiff, and commented on the reckless conduct of the defendant, who had scattered speculative bills, to the amount of 500*l.* about the world, in the course of four years, being now only two-and-twenty years of age. It was also clear that consideration had been given to Elliott for the endorsement. Mr. Sherwood's case was that Newcome was in Sherwood's debt to the amount of nearly 90*l.*, and being importuned for payment handed over the bill to Sherwood without communicating to him the circumstances under which it was entrusted to him. Thomas Hagarth Newcome was then called, and in his examination in chief supported this statement. He had been indebted to Mr. Sherwood in about 60*l.* or 70*l.*, and in January had applied to Sherwood to defend him in an action brought against him. Mr. Baron Alderson: Where? At the Old Bailey? Witness: Not exactly, my lord. Mr. Baron Alderson: Next time, perhaps. The bill was taken to Sherwood a few days before it became due. The witness further stated that he did not remember whether he told Sherwood that the bill had been given to him to get discounted. Mr. Baron Alderson: "I think I could cure this bill system by making it a felony. It is perfectly disgraceful. It would be a most beneficial act if any gentleman would take the subject in hand, and bring in a bill making such a transaction a felony. If such an act of Parliament were passed the good effected would be incalculable, and the parties would be at the bar at the Old Bailey."

At this point of the case Mr. Petersdorff said that he would elect to be nonsuited. Mr. James said that he must have a verdict for the defendant, or have the case go on. The Judge said that he could not prevent the plaintiff from being nonsuited. A grosser fraud he had never seen or heard of. The bill was ordered to be impounded, and the plaintiff was called and nonsuited.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Court records are rather showy this week. The young Prince Arthur's birthday was gaily kept on Monday; the Queen giving a juvenile ball in the Throne-room, and treating the youngsters to supper afterwards in the state dinner room. On Wednesday there was a Levee at St. James's Palace. The Queen and her husband have been to the French Plays, the Italian Opera, and the Princess's Theatre. Lord Elgin took his leave of her Majesty on Thursday, on his return to Canada, as Governor-General. The new Swedish Minister, Admiral Virgin, dined with the Queen on the same night.

The Queen has appointed Mr. Hugh Culling Eardley Childers, Mr. Edward Grimes, and Mr. Charles McMahon, to be non-elective Members of the Legislative Council of the colony of Victoria.

Letters patent have been passed under the Great Seal

appointing Lieutenant-General Sir Hew Dalrymple Ross, K.C.B., to be Lieutenant-General of the Ordnance of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

Sir William Parker succeeds Sir Francis Omaney as flag-officer at Plymouth. The term of the latter has expired.

Mr. John Robert Godley has resigned his position as Chief Commissioner of Income-tax in Ireland. Mr. Godley is in good repute for conciliation.

The Duke of Argyll presided at the annual distribution of the prizes to the students in medicine at the University College of London, last Saturday.

There are now three regimental colonelies at the disposal of the Commander-in-Chief—those of the Royal Horse Guards, vacant by Lord Anglesey's death; of the 70th Foot, by General Halls; and of the 86th, by General Parkes.

The Duke of Newcastle has appointed Mr. George Ferguson Bowen, Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford, Permanent Secretary to the Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, in the room of Sir John Fraser, R.C.M.G., who is about to retire on his pension, after 20 years' service in that capacity.

Sir Robert Peel safely returned home on Thursday—all the more welcome, perhaps, on account of his late escape.

Mr. Kennedy has retired from the commissionership he held in the Woods and Forests, in consequence, it is said, of the pending investigation.

Hastings will shortly be called upon to choose a new member, as Mr. Briscoe is about to resign. The names of Mr. North, Liberal, and Mr. Crake, Tory, are mentioned as candidates.

Dr. Whewell has commenced a series of lectures on the Influence of Science on Education, at the Royal Institution, Prince Albert in the chair.

We are glad to state that Mr. James Wilson, M.P., whose health had given way in consequence of his laborious attention to his official duties, has made sufficient progress towards recovery to justify the expectation that he will shortly be able to resume his attendance at the Treasury.—*Globe*.

Mr. Wentworth, the gentleman to whose efforts the new constitution adopted by the New South Wales Legislature is due, is to have a statue set up in his honour at Sydney.

The new alderman for the ward of Queenhithe is Mr. Rose. He defeated his opponent, Mr. Croll, by 37 to 25. Our readers will remember that the vacancy was occasioned by the death of Mr. Alderman Hooper.

On Highgate-hill, until within a few days, stood the stone upon which fond tradition tells us sat the famous Dick Whittington, when he heard Bow bells ring out, "Turn again, Whittington, Lord Mayor of London." The stone has been removed to make room for a public-house.

Colonel Dawson and his colleagues in the Metropolitan Sewers Commission are very naturally anxious to quit the potholes. In reply to an inquiry at a meeting, on Tuesday, Mr. R. Jebb said that he could not give any information as to what progress has been made with the Government bill for reconstructing the commission; but he believed it would be shortly introduced.

Memorials, addressed to her Majesty, are now in the course of signature, soliciting a free pardon for the mayor of Rye, now under sentence in Newgate for perjury.

The *Waterford News* says:—"Mr. Dargan has advertised for 250 men for the works at the Kilkenny side of the river. As yet he has not been able to procure anything like the requisite number."

We understand that the scrutiny of the votes for the election of a churchwarden has resulted in a majority for Mr. Davidson, and legal steps will be taken to prevent Mr. Weston exercising the office. At an influential meeting of the parishioners, held on Saturday, it was unanimously resolved to spare no expense in defending the services as at present conducted at St. Paul's, from whatever quarter they may be assailed, and a defence committee of noblemen and gentlemen was formed for that purpose.—*Chronicle*.

Accounts from Jamaica to the 10th of April bring the long-expected intelligence that the Council had passed the Responsible Government Bill by a majority of one; and that Governor Barkly had instantly given it his assent.

The Town Council of Manchester has adopted a sensible recommendation from a committee—that the cab trade be thrown open to free competition.

General George Neville de Strabolgie Plantagenet Harrison has turned up in Constantinople. It seems he was to head the Greek conspiracy, which prematurely exploded some time ago by the arrest of the Russian Baron Olsner.

There was a thunder-storm at Leeds on Tuesday. Two workmen were killed, and several greatly hurt.

Our sailors of the revenue service have been too fast in picking up Russian ships. Several of the recent captures have been dismissed, as they were not legal prizes—one or more having sailed from France.

There has been a ridiculous rumour afloat this week, propagated by a Frenchman, through Lloyd's agents, that a French barque has been taken by a Russian frigate twenty leagues from Cardiff. The *gascon fougue* escaped by swimming, he says. Whether the rumour be true or false, the Admiralty have rightly sent two steamers to look after the alleged frigate.

A gentleman, and member of Parliament in bygone years, showed on Thursday how to get through 12,000*l.* a year. To sober mortals it seems a feat equal, at least, to pouring fifty sorts of wine out of one bottle, to be possessed of 12,000*l.* a-year, and to make a climax in the Queen's Bench. Yet this is what has been done by Mr. Sackville Walter Lane Fox. Since the spring of 1853 he has been in the Queen's Bench; and on Thursday he applied for his discharge in the Insolvent Court. His debts were—168,803*l.*, 36,749*l.* of which were without consideration, and 28,000*l.* unsecured. Among the items were a contested election in 1841, 7,000*l.*; an Italian warehouse, 600*l.*; and a fishmonger, 500*l.* Mr. Fox's income was in the gross 17,000*l.* a-year, and deducting rent and other charges, 12,000*l.* There were two opposing creditors—a money

lender and the Italian warehousemen, Hedges and Butler, in Regent street. But Commissioner Law thought the insolvent was entitled to his discharge.

The Reverend Charles Lowder, one of the curates of St. Barnabas, has appeared in the Westminster Police Court, and publicly expressed his regret at having supplied eggs to the chorister boys, for the purpose of pelting a man carrying a board about the streets announcing the name of the candidate for the office of churchwarden who did not happen to share the eminent confidence of Mr. Lowder.

A clever thief, named Kope, managed to steal some 600*l.* worth of jewellery, at Birmingham, this week, and get arrested for it. He went to a jeweller's, pretending he had come from Australia to give orders; while looking over the stock, he abstracted jewels to the above amount. He left, and promised to return in a few hours. Meanwhile, the jewellers found out their loss; discovering that Kope had set off for Manchester, telegraphed a description of him to the police there, who seized him as he left the train!

Eight persons were burnt to death in the house of a bookseller named Brossette, at Whitechapel. On Saturday morning the policeman on duty observed that the house was on fire. He instantly made efforts to rouse the inmates, and succeeded in waking Brossette and his wife. By this time the fire-escape arrived, and Wood, the escape-man, rushed up to the window where Mrs. Brossette was calling for help, seized her in his arms, and one of the children in his teeth, and carried them down the ladder, ascending again and rescuing two other children and the father. He also attempted to enter another window, but the escape caught fire. On searching the ruins there were found eight bodies—all foreigners. An inquest was held, and the jury returned the following verdict:—"That the deceased persons were found dead in the ruins of a fire which took place at No. 1, Chester-street, Whitechapel; but how or by what means the said fire was caused we have no legal evidence to show; and we (the jury) cannot separate without expressing the deep sense of the services rendered by the fire-escape conductor, the policeman, and others, in endeavouring to save the lives of all persons in danger, and particularly of those preserved, and in clearing the ruins to recover the missing bodies."

Incendiary fires have been frequent of late in Manchester; or, perhaps, it would be more correct to say that the incendiary offices believe incendiaries abound in Manchester. Their agents held a meeting on Thursday, and resolved steps should be taken to stop incendiary fires.

One of the most fearful operations in surgery was performed upon a patient, last week, at the Mesmeric Infirmary, in Weymouth-street. Mr. Tubbs, surgeon, first placed the patient, a woman named Flowerday, in a mesmeric state, and then cut a cancer from her right breast. She felt nothing whatever of the operation.

The Parliamentary Committee on the Wellington Dock Bill have decided that, considering the present state and prospects of the country and trade, it is inexpedient to sanction at present any new works of this description. The enterprise, which was extremely popular among the commercial classes on the Southwark side of the metropolis, must therefore be deferred till a more prosperous time.

It appears from a Parliamentary paper just issued that all interest on the Russian-Dutch loan up to the present time has been paid up, and that the original debt still remains due of 472,518*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.*

Another Parliamentary paper shows that the sums of money paid out of the Consolidated Fund, under the acts of 2 and 3 of Will. IV., c. 121, upon that part of the Greek Loan guaranteed by this country, amounts to 503,602*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.* The amount repaid by the Greek Government, up to 1848, has been 31,084*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*, leaving 472,518*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* as balance due.

#### Postscript.

SATURDAY, May 6th.

IN the House of Commons, in reply to Mr. E. French, Sir J. Graham stated that a despatch had been received which contained the intelligence from Odessa, which Lord Clarendon stated in the other House.

In reply to Mr. Cobden, Lord J. Russell said Lord Stratford had induced the Turkish Government to diminish the severity of the edict expelling Greek subjects from Turkey.

Mr. Gladstone stated, in answer to Mr. Labouchere, that it was not intended to bring forward any bill this session for regulating the civil service.

Sir James Graham brought forward the supplemental Naval Estimates in committee of supply. The sum required was 4,533,731*l.*, of which 461,700*l.* is for wages to seamen, 11,000*l.* of it being required for 5000 additional men in the last six months; the sum of 200,000*l.* for victualling 10,000 men for the year; the naval stores required an addition of 699,331*l.* The largest sum is 3,096,700*l.* for the ordnance and army departments, that is, the transport and conveyance of troops and stores.

Mr. Baillie took the opportunity of calling attention to the subject of the entry of naval cadets into the service, and the system of patronage at the Admiralty, for which he was rebuked by Mr. Hume, who thought it was not an occasion for any cavilling with details.

The debate then went on principally among naval members.

Mr. Bernal Osborne vindicated the disposition of the Admiralty patronage, and complained of the strictures of the press on Admiral Dundas, and in this he was supported by Mr. Stafford.

Mr. CONNELL expressed his gratification at the course taken with regard to private property in the carrying on the war.

Sir J. GIBBON expressed his hope that if the correspondence on the subject of the Black Sea was not considered satisfactory, a motion would be brought forward. He strongly vindicated the conduct of Admiral Dundas, and the whole conduct of affairs in the Black Sea.

Mr. DISRAELI made an attack on Lord Aberdeen, and declared if he had never been Minister there would have been no war; but being in the war, he would not interrupt the unanimity in voting the supplies which ought to prevail. He then made an elaborate attack on Mr. Gladstone's financial proceedings, and accused him of endeavouring to mystify and delude the country by a plurality of budgets.

Lord J. RUSSELL said he thought war would have come even if Lord Derby had been Minister. He defended the financial policy of the Government and vindicated the principles on which the war had been undertaken, and expressed his gratification at the prospect of its being humanely conducted.

Mr. HENLEY carried on the discussion, and Mr. M. GRISON was very powerful in denouncing the destruction and confiscation of private property in the progress of the war.

The votes were agreed to, after a short discussion.

Mr. S. HENNETT then brought up the supplemental Army Estimates. The augmentation now proposed would increase the army to 160,000 men. He proposed to re-organise the regimental system, and make them all consist of twelve companies, eight to form the service battalion and four the reserve; but the number of men in each company would vary in number in time of war from that in time of peace, by which means it might at once be contracted or expanded to the extent of 50,000 men. The number in war would be 1400 men to a regiment. The number about to be raised this year in addition to the present force was 42,000 men. It was not likely that number would be raised in one year; but he looked principally to the militia. The number of men now to be voted was 14,779.

A brief discussion followed, and the vote was agreed to.

In the House of Lords, in reply to the Marquis of CLANRICARDE,

The Earl of CLarendon said, that a despatch had been received, stating that Admiral Dundas had destroyed the Imperial mole batteries, and the Russian ships at Odessa, but the town had been respected, and the loss to the allied fleets was only eight men killed and eighteen wounded. The fleets had sailed towards Sebastopol.

Lord REDESDALE complained of the manner in which the newspapers had spoken of the delay of the Duke of Cambridge in proceeding to the seat of war.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE said such aspersions should be treated with contempt. The Duke had acted under the instructions of the Government, displaying the greatest ability and with great success, and had always been eager to go to his post.

The Earl of HARDWICKE hoped that the officers employed in the East would have the moral courage to treat attacks on them of this nature with the indifference they deserved.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE brought on the affair of the escape of the Russians from the Circassian forts, and insinuated some connivance on the part of the steamers which witnessed the departure of the Russian squadron.

The Earl of CLarendon showed that Captain Jones, of the *Sampson*, acted in strict conformity with his instructions.

The House adjourned at a quarter to seven.

The body of the Marquis of Anglesey was borne off to Lichfield Cathedral, yesterday, escorted to the Euston Station by a squadron of the Horse Guards (Blue), and followed by many mourners. To-day the funeral took place, and the remains of the gallant old soldier repose in Lichfield Cathedral.

The latest news from the Baltic shows that our admirals and their squadrons are full of activity, although no striking results have yet been realised. Off Hango Point, one of the war ships was fired at, not into; the shot fell short. Admiral Napier visited Stockholm on the 24th of April, and had an interview with King Oscar. The Swedes are delighted to see our fleet.

The latest news from Odessa appeared in a third edition of the *Times*, yesterday, stating that, "On the 23rd of April the allied fleets destroyed, in a few hours, all the fortifications, the batteries, and the military stores. Two powder magazines blew up, and twelve vessels of war were sunk. The merchant vessels were saved. The loss of the allies was only five killed and six wounded. Thirteen Russian vessels laden with munitions were taken. The fleet left in the direction of Sebastopol."

#### TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. All letters for the Editor should be addressed to 7, Wellington-street, Strand, London.

Communications should always be legibly written, and on one side of the paper only. If long, it increases the difficulty of finding space for them.

## The Leader.

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1854.

### Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD.

#### SURVEY OF THE WAR.

THE present moment seems favourable for a survey of the warlike operations which have been effected within the last six weeks, so far as we can make them out from the confused and contradictory reports that flood the newspapers day by day; premising that much of what we write may be inaccurate, but answering at least for this, that it shall not misrepresent the facts which have appeared before the public.

At the beginning of March the Russian position consisted of a chain of posts, more or less strong, running from Galatz to the banks of the Danube above Kalafat. Behind them rose the Carpathians; in their front ran the Danube; and sweeping away to the north, the high road to Russia, whence alone they could receive such supplies and reinforcements as were needed. On the banks of the Danube itself, at Giurgevo and other places, they showed a front to the Turks; and a strong body, up to quite recently, menaced the lines at Kalafat. But they did not hold both banks of the Lower Danube, a matter of great importance, both as regarded the security of their line of communication and the possession of the Danube itself. Towards the close of March, as our readers know, they effected the passage of the Lower Danube, not without loss, and the Turks withdrawing, they occupied the Dobrudscha. Having accomplished this, their engineers endeavoured to secure the mouths of the Danube against the combined fleets; and simultaneously with the march of General Lüders through the Dobrudscha, Prince Gortschakoff drew down upon Silistria and established strand batteries opposite that fortress. Yet another movement was made a few weeks later. In order to support any offensive movement from Bucharest upon the centre of the Turkish position, the troops hitherto engaged in watching Kalafat and hovering on the Servian frontier, were suddenly marched to the left bank of the Schyl, and probably to the left bank of the Aluta. Meanwhile, General Lüders, whose advanced guard was roughly handled at Czernavoda on the 20th, but whose superior numbers secured him from any serious check, pushed forward his columns beyond Trajan's Wall, and bent his course to the right, evidently with the intention of co-operating in the siege of Silis-

tria. Thus, whatever may be the plans of the Russians, it would appear that their columns point, on their right to Rustchuk, on their centre to Silistria, and on their left to the road leading, on the one hand to Schumla, on the other to Pravadi.

Of course a corresponding change has taken place in the position of the Turkish army. When once the Russians got a footing in the Dobrudscha, and reduced the small fortresses, it became untenable, and Omar Pasha ordered the troops to fall back upon the entrenched camp at Schumla. This movement, we know, has been effected. The Ottoman General had, on the 16th of April, something like 70,000 men under his hand in this stronghold; Basardschich was also occupied, and scouting corps were thrown forward in the direction of Silistria and Rassova to observe the Russians. Farther to the left the links connecting Schumla with Widdin were the river fortresses and ports—Rustchuk, Sistova, Nicopolis, Rahowa—while on the left bank of the Danube, the admirably chosen position of Kalafat, and the retreat of the Russians, left it to the discretion of the Ottoman commanders whether they would or not follow and harass, or engage the right of the Russians. Nor is this the only advantage which the change of position seems to have given the Turks. It is admitted that General Lüders was in a precarious position. On his right ran the Danube, cutting him off from support on that side; on his left the Black Sea, occupied by the combined fleets; in his rear the desert Dobrudscha. Omar Pasha was watching his movements with a keen eye; we have yet to learn the results. The balance of loss and gain by both sides would seem to be thus: the Turks have lost the command of the Lower Danube, and with it the power of co-operating with the fleets in opening that river; but they have regained the initiative on their left, and are concentrated in their centre. The Russians have gained the command of the Lower Danube, and with it the power of obstructing the opening of the mouths by the allied squadrons; but they have lost their unity by placing the Danube between the main body and the corps of General Lüders.

Such is the position of the armies. The report that reached London, on Wednesday afternoon, that Omar Pasha had defeated General Lüders does not appear to be warranted by facts. The conflict referred to is probably that at Czernavoda, which, we are told, took place on the 20th, the day named in the Vienna despatch as the date of the conflict "between Silistria and Rassova." There is every reason to believe that the Ottoman commander would not strike a blow until joined by the allied forces, unless he clearly saw an opportunity which it would be criminal to let slip.

Beyond what we have stated there are few details of warlike movements. It is certain that Odessa has been bombarded; but the details are still wanting. It is probable that attacks have been commenced at the Suling mouth of the Danube; but a telegraphic despatch is our only warrant for the assertion. At all events, it is the duty of the allies to open the Danube, and no doubt the Admirals will fulfil that duty.

Turning from Europe to Asia, we find the Turkish force at Kars every day deriving new strength, new discipline, and fresh courage from the inspiration of General Guyon, under whom they are fortifying Kars and preparing either for offence or defence. But there is no news from the Russian positions, which are probably much the same as they were last autumn. In the Caucasus, however, the Circassians are on the alert, and no doubt Schamyl will find work for his perennial foes.

## DIGGINGS FOR MR. GLADSTONE.

THE tenders received at the Treasury on the 2nd inst. did not cover the whole of the first series of Exchequer-bonds payable in 1858, and for the other two series repayable respectively in the two subsequent years. There were very few tenders. No doubt the motives which restrained subscribers would appear in the circumstances which attended the proposal. On the previous night Lord Grey, Lord Monteagle, and Lord Clanricarde joined the Opposition in the endeavour to damage the Government finance. The subject before the House, indeed, was the second reading of the Income-tax Bill, which was not Mr. Gladstone's loan; and so far as the subject before the House went, it would appear that the grumblers had no warrant for their complaints, since the bill passed almost without a word, except a protest, in which we entirely concur, from Lord Brougham against any such tax as an income-tax. But leaving the measure under their consideration undisturbed, Lord Grey, Lord Monteagle, and Lord Clanricarde made a series of complaints implying so many charges against Mr. Gladstone, and using language intended to suggest that the finance of the country was in a state of danger—that Mr. Gladstone had not succeeded in his stock commutation of last year, because he was unacquainted with finance—and that he was opening a career which would so reduce the balance in the Exchequer as to leave a deficiency. Lord Grey talked about "the serious statement" that there were 2,800,000l. of "deficiency" bills; and he warned the House against the time when the cashier of the Bank might be obliged to disappoint the public creditor, and might ask to have time in paying dividends! Altogether it is impossible to imagine a more monstrous fabrication than that suggested by these complaints when there is an actual surplus of revenue, when Mr. Gladstone has shown the most minute acquaintance with the details of finance, when his conduct of our taxation has been such that his benefits have already reached the humblest households, and when the plans he has laid before the country—however controverted by some that have interests arrayed against them—have received approval from those who have a practical as well as theoretical knowledge of the subject. The three lords whom we have named, Lord Grey, Lord Monteagle, and Lord Clanricarde, are Whigs, who expected to have been promoted with the new Ministry: two are out of place, and one holds nothing better than a patent office. It is for this reason that we find the trio singing the doleful ditty of "danger to the country" from "deficiency" through Mr. Gladstone's defalcations, when there is a surplus, and England enjoys an unmeasured amount of wealth, freer from the oppression of taxes than it has ever been.

But the day after that night of dismal forebodings was the day for receiving the tenders, and it was well known that the public had been hanging back, wanting to find out how it should settle its price. This was natural enough, for the public is not "up" in such matters. Ask any given colonel on half-pay, who has a few spare thousands which he would be glad to place in safety; ask your maiden aunt, half of whose "little all" was invested in railway shares and thus swamped, and who is very nervous about the other half; ask the retired tradesman, who has some part of his accumulated affluence lodged in a joint-stock bank, where it makes him as uneasy as if it were on board a Russian ship;—ask these people to tell you off-hand what would be a fair price per cent. for an Exchequer-bond? and their replies would tell you how desirous they were of concealing their greenness, by obscure allusions to the

price of consols, or to railway debentures, or to discount for doubtful bills of exchange between private parties. The maiden aunt, indeed, could tell the other two that railways are bottoms as uncertain as Russian ships; the tradesman remembers 1825, and the retired colonel knows that there is a difference between Exchequer-bonds and consols at three per cent., especially as the bonds are to be paid off at par in four, five, or six years. Still they cannot fix the price,—they would tender, if they only knew what to offer. If they were to offer, say 87, Mr. Gladstone might laugh at them, and they are all three rather too tenacious of their own repute for common sense to relish the idea of being laughed at by so gentlemanly and so clever a person as Mr. Gladstone. On the other hand, if they make a short cut and offer a hundred pounds, which in their own mind they would feel to be a very satisfactory mode of lodging the said hundred with its companions, they feel that they might have got more; and no man likes to give away his money "to the nation." So they would wait and see what other persons did. That this was the feeling of the country was shown by the circumstance that as soon as Mr. Gladstone stated his real price, 987. 15s., the public began to send in their tenders. The tradesman felt glad that he had escaped exposing a vulgar ignorance, and making Mr. Gladstone laugh at him by offering 87; and the maiden lady reflected that 25s. on the 100l. amount to 12l. 10s. on the 1000l., and would quite cover the cost of her clothing during the year; for she can make the same sum go as far as most women with a draper and dress-maker.

Still she does not exactly know what an Exchequer-bond is, nor the shop where she can send to buy one. If she could only learn that, her thousand pounds would be safe; but she does not like to expose her ignorance—what woman does!—to some people, and does not like to take advice of others about anything so tempting as a 1000l. She took advice in 1846, and the advice took her to Capel-court. It is an adviser that she wants, and perhaps when the public becomes better acquainted with Exchequer-bonds, and English people have seen the documents, the ins and outs of this proceeding will become better understood, and the direct appeal which the Chancellor has made to the public will receive a more complete answer.

It is desirable that it should be so, for if democracy is valuable in anything, it is in trade. It is by a perfect freedom of bartering that a public Minister can find out on what terms he can procure assistance. We are confident that there are millions of money lying idle in the hands of those private persons who are financially called "the public," and whom we have ventured to represent by the maiden aunt, the retired tradesman, and the colonel on half-pay; sums which might be lodged with the Minister, most safely for the owners—and profitable too—and which the Chancellor of the Exchequer might obtain on honester terms than those which he is obliged to give to the Caucasians that trade upon the State, and make their profits out of "deficiencies."

## THE RUSSIAN HEDGEHOG.

IT becomes a most interesting question now, what is the power of Russia? Can the Emperor Nicholas, by standing to his guns and firing at everything that ventures to come within range, beat back the steady advance of the powerful armaments of the Western Powers? The question is not can we take Russia—but can we be prevented from destroying the Russian strongholds in the Baltic, and from bombarding St. Petersburg?

Most minds seem just now to be inflamed to that sanguine pitch, and most mental palates have become so feverish that they demand daily victories to be served up with the eggs and toast, and the *Times*. Great impatience has seized the noisier part of the public; the Opposition, although they must know better, artfully increase the excitement, and people seem almost to think that we cannot only transmit the news of battles, but actually win them "by electric telegraph." They forget Russian forts, Russian cannon, and Russian armies; Russian fleets, it must be admitted, are out of the question. In fact, they forget that Russia is a great hedgehog, extremely difficult to handle; especially as your hedgehog, or porcupine, is made of rock and granite, and can launch forth not spears, but heavy cannon-balls and explosive shells, whereas your manipulators are untried wood and iron, capable of hitting hard also, but still untried. Under these circumstances we can but regard as most timely the publication of such an article as that in the current number of *Fraser's Magazine*, giving sound information, not only as to the state of the Russian fleet, but the state of the Baltic fortresses.

Russia, as we have said, is a grim hedgehog, rolled up at present, pricked outwards, very formidable to see. Peter founded St. Petersburg on a shaking bog, and built a fort on the island of Cronslott; Nicholas has converted the whole strait into a huge fortress; Alexander seized Finland, and captured Helsingfors by treachery; and Nicholas makes of it "the Gibraltar of the North." So it is with the islands of Aland. He has attempted to make of them a padlock on the Gulf of Bothnia.

The object of war is to destroy or humble your enemy, so that he sue for peace. In the present case we view with just suspicion, and not without alarm for the freedom of the North, the vast military works, the huge robber castles which the Czar of Moscow has constructed about the Baltic; and it is through these very structures that lies the way to the heart of our foe. Take, for instance, the islands of Aland, commanding the entrance of the Gulf of Bothnia. The Czar has erected there a vast fortified casemated barrack, which presents 120 guns in two tiers to the roadstead, and commanding the passage of the strait called the Bomar Sund. The use of this, except as a constant menace and ever present danger to Stockholm, it is impossible to conceive. Again, Riga is a fortified city of the first class, but inspired by terror at the name of Napier, the fort commanding the Duna has been strengthened, and other defensive works begun. Revel is defended by three batteries, one mounting 62, another 96 guns, in casemates; but these forts do not properly support each other. The outworks of Cronstat may be said to begin with the intricate navigations—the sand-banks, rocks, and islands, from which all lights and beacons have been withdrawn—and to this must be added the fire of batteries placed in commanding positions. Sveaborg, where lie eight sail-of-the-line, a frigate, corvette, and three steamers of the Russian Baltic fleet, is a most formidable fortress or nest of fortresses protecting Helsingfors. There is a mile of works, not only defending the narrow entrance to the bay, but commanding some points of the mainland. In taking a fleet to St. Petersburg, it would be necessary to pass, ship by ship, first between two forts, one mounted with 116 guns, all in casemates, the other mounting nearly sixty guns; then Fort Peter, seventy-six guns; after that Cronslott, forty guns à fleur de l'eau; a mole and several other works; and, lastly, Fort Menzikoff, looking straight down the channel. Now whether all these works are proof against the fire and ma-

nœuvres of screw-ships of the line, led by a Napier, cannot be known without trial; and how many of our impatient folks, who hourly talk about the remissness of Ministers in not at once battering Sebastopol and Cronstadt to pieces, will venture to suggest that it should be attacked rashly? It has yet to be proved that steamers can do anything against stone walls, especially with modern gunnery; on the other hand, it is not impossible that some of these grim-looking pieces at Sveaborg and Cronstadt may be unserviceable, and it is certain that the Russian seamen are very bad marksmen. Besides, generals of Foot command the fleets; and marine officers of a certain rank wear spurs. Russia actually produces Horse-marines!

There can be no doubt but that the Northern hedgehog will roll up and make itself as troublesome as possible. But there are more ways of inducing that unpolite animal to "open up" than by employing the ungloved hand in the operation. If you bundle your hedgehog into the water he rapidly opens up and exposes his weak points. At present Russia turns her bristling batteries upon us, and trusts to her casemates; but she, too, has her weak points. Behind those batteries, on either side, are the disaffected Fins and the disaffected people of the Baltic provinces. Why not bundle Nicholas into the troubled waters of rebellion, and make him open up? Fins have something to remember—a civilisation, a constitution, laws, literature, nay, even a history. They are the weak points of our spiky friend of the casemates. In the same way, and in a brief space, the people of Courland, Estonia, and Livonia, if invited, may, perhaps, come to revolt. And if these people are too far gone in slavery, or too hard pressed by the soldiery of the Czar, there is still Poland—heroic Poland—whose burning nationality no power can quench, and whose readiness to rise no one can question.

Still, it must be admitted that it is not at the outset of a war like the present that we can look for insurrections—if at all; and that so long as Austria and Prussia stand by armed, ready to strike at insurrections, especially, the former in the east and south, the latter in the north, it is doubtful whether England is in position to call forth the Poles. The same objection, however, does not apply to the Fins, who might not only win their former importance at the point of the sword, but man our fleets if we want men.

The main thing to be kept in mind in this war is not to expect too much, especially from the fleets. In the Baltic, at least, as we have shown above, there are a few difficulties. Still difficulties are things to be overcome; and we can by no means admit that, whatever be its strength, it is impossible to take St. Petersburg. Will any one say, for instance that, if adequate terms were offered, a British company would not contract to seize St. Petersburg and deliver it up in a given time? Russia is strong, but not so strong that the most powerful of modern nations cannot reduce her to reason. If the real object of the war be to destroy the "blasting influence" which, Lord Clarendon says, sweeps like a pestilence from the shaking bog of St. Petersburg over the nations of central Europe; if we be resolute to teach the barbarian to know his frontiers, and to arrest the course of the monarch who bullies Europe from behind his casemated batteries, then it is absurd to say that we cannot find the means. Should Napier and Parseval-Deschénes fail, as fail they may, Sweden, Norway, and Denmark must be called upon to lend their aid. If we need more, Germany can furnish a popular contingent, to say nothing of Italy. Remember, it is not for France or even England exclu-

sively that we are contending, but for European civilisation. The modern Attila must not succeed as his precursor did; the South and West must repel the Northern hordes this time; upon that subject there must be no sort of doubt. Therefore, what means will accomplish this we are bound to resort to; neither overlooking the Poles and Fins on one flank, nor the Circassians on the other. The conflict predicted by Napoleon may or may not have arrived, that Europe should be Republican or Cossack; but that conflict has begun in downright earnest which shall determine whether Europe is to be European or Russian, whether we Western peoples shall exist as a free community of powers, shamefully imperfect as that community is, or whether, *plus* existing imperfection, one power shall dominate over all the others.

Such being the nature of the contest, it is obvious that we must neither overrate our present strength, nor neglect such aid as can be had for the asking; nor enter into rash enterprises; nor, while we scrutinise our commanders and look keenly into the doings of our Ministers, must we expect too much from the former, or cultivate that spirit of vulgar impatience which betrays a want of grave self-reliance upon ourselves.

#### DISSENT IN THE UNIVERSITIES.

The contest which is carried on in the House of Commons, for the purpose of opening Oxford University to the Dissenters, is not likely to have any effect unless it should have that of postponing for some time longer the admission of *more* Dissenters into the University. For we agree with the *Morning Chronicle* in thinking that the Oxford Bill does not exclude Dissenters; and we might cite the same authority for confirming our statement, frequently repeated, that the University itself does not exclude them. The Oxford Bill does not deal with the subject at all, but by introducing a much more liberal organization of the University, and by extending its machinery throughout the country where Dissenters are the vast majority, it certainly prepares the way for an ulterior measure which would have the effect of openly admitting Dissenters so called.

We point with satisfaction to the testimony of the *Morning Chronicle* as to the inefficacy of tests for restraining the members of the University to one particular faith:—

"In spite of the tests, Oxford has been the perpetual scene of conflict between parties differing in the most radical and fundamental manner, on those very questions which the tests affect to settle, and on which the mind of every matriculated member of the University is supposed to be entirely at rest. In spite of the tests, Oxford produced those writers who were the fathers of modern infidelity both in England and elsewhere. In spite of the tests, the University was torn by dissensions between the High Churchmen who imposed one-half of them, and the Puritans who imposed the other. In spite of the tests, speculations have been pursued, and opinions have been matured, which have convulsed the Church of England to its foundations—which have cast Oxford men on every shore of infidelity and dissent—and which have furnished simultaneously the most formidable assailants of Christianity, and the most formidable advocates of the Church of Rome. That man must be sanguine who thinks that all this ferment, which began the instant that intellectual activity revived, and which is only part of a great European movement, will subside again into a secure and calm acquiescence in the compromise of the sixteenth century. Yet, unless such a result is anticipated, to keep up the tests is to keep up a great academical hypocrisy, at the expense of a great national wrong."

Yes, tests would be just if the nation at large actually agreed in one form of faith, and if it desired to render those seminaries for its Church, its aristocracy, and its higher professions in harmony with that national faith, freed from exceptions. There is reason

to doubt whether at any period the faith of England has been uniform; but certainly the compromise of the sixteenth century, instead of resulting in uniformity, has introduced that boundless diversity of creed which renders every sect whatsoever a minority surrounded by an adverse and multifarious majority. It was inevitable that the overturning of an authority claiming implicit obedience on the score of Apostolic succession should give a freedom to opinion which could not consistently stop short of the absolute right of private judgment. The compromise which tried to arrest the current from the centre of absolute authority to the circumference of open judgment, and half to admit individual opinion while half retaining Apostolic authority, has been a failure in practice as well as in strict logical reason. The nation does *not* belong to the "Church of England."

Tests, of course, cannot cause the existence of belief; but the attempt to enforce uniform tests with penalties on the one hand, and reward on the other, has had the effect indicated by the *Morning Chronicle*, and has divided the immense majority of Dissenters into two great divisions. One division of Dissenters separates itself from the State, repudiates all State payment, and is constantly endeavouring to drag down the authority of the State in matters pertaining to religion. After the contests of Henry, Edward, Mary, and Elizabeth, with the rapid changes of creed represented in history by those four sovereigns, dissent mingled with political insurrection, and became an established institution of this country.

"It now claims half the nation. It has outgrown toleration. You cannot tolerate half the people. Equal justice, and equal participation in all national rights and institutions, is now the only rule. Otherwise we shall have a nation within the nation—alien, resentful, and aggressive. It is a dangerous thing that the commercial and manufacturing classes—the most wealthy, intelligent, and active portion of the population—should have no part in the great place of national education; that they should regard Oxford and Cambridge, Eton and Winchester, as institutions whose greatness is their degradation. The manufacturing districts have grown up with a religion, with politics, with a social philosophy, with ideas and aspirations almost entirely their own. Between Manchester and Lambeth there is a gulf, wider probably than ever divided two portions of the same free nation."

There are, however, much more than "two portions," and dissent claims more than "half the nation," for the tests have had an effect besides that of establishing uniformity. Failing to compel belief, which was, of course, impossible, they have purchased profession; as open dissent is punished, and as conformity is rewarded, a large proportion of the Dissenters call themselves members of the Church of England, subscribe the Thirty-nine Articles, and thus become admissible at once to the Universities and to good society. But they remain Dissenters still; they are Baptists, Wesleyans, Platonists, Atheists, Spiritualists, Indifferentists, and members of a hundred other denominations, but they call themselves members of the Church, subscribe its articles, can enter a university, and can share the property of the Church. They are Dissenters bribed to pretend that they are members of a national Church; they obtain positions where they may embezzle the property of the Church for the purpose of muffled dissent; and thus, reinforced by Dissenters, who agree to wear its uniform, the Church of England is able to seem as if it were the Church of half the country, to keep up appearance, to preserve its monopoly, and to prevent the property shared by the Corporation of Soothsayers from being openly confiscated to the State.

The tests, however, do something more than aid that hypocrisy; they positively assist in promoting non-religion, or rather anti-religion. Condemning the religious in-

terference of the Universities, the *Morning Chronicle* says:—"The grand heresiarch and propagandist is the bookseller, whom no tests exclude, and compared with whose influence the mere outer sight of a few more discrepancies of belief, which are already present to every man's mental vision, would not be worth a serious apprehension." But a set of men come to the high heresiarch and propagandist prepared by a training which teaches them that religious profession is a hollow falsehood, a humbug, a form through which Dissenters and Atheists can enter the Church of England for the purpose of embezzling its wealth; such men are actually trained by the University to receive every form of faith with a sneer, and to learn in the library, as well as in the face of nature, that blank scepticism which not only denies the authority of the Church, the Apostolical succession whether of England or Rome, but the veritable faith in any creed and the existence of a God. There are no sceptics who go further than those who are in holy orders. The great distinction between the Secularists, of whom Mr. Holyoake is the leader, and those who live upon the Church of England and rise to its bishoprics, is, that Mr. Holyoake's followers are sincere, are courteous to opponents, and candid in the admission of arguments on the other side; while the Secularists in the Church of England are spies in the enemy's camp, stabbing religion in the back, and using its forms as the disguise of a spiritual Thuggee. But it is by swelling the numbers of the Church with recruits like this, as well as Platonists, Romanists, Baptists, and many other Dissenters, that the Church keeps up its fictitious statistics, ekes out its numbers to look like half the nation, and by a licence of language as well as of reason and justice, obtains half a pretext to call itself the Church of England.

It is not, however, by rapping the knuckles of those who are placing the pickaxe to the corner-stone of the enemy's fortress that the true friends of nationality in religion will aid the admission of Dissenters to the University. The Reactionaries prefer the name of an obsolete religion to the avowal of things as they are; the confederacy of worldly Churchmen, disguised Dissenters, and spiritual Thugs, garrison the fortress, to drive away the pioneers from their work of beginning the breach; and both these parties are helped by the real reformers who obstruct the Government bill, and are thus effectually preventing the admission of honest Dissenters to the privileges now reserved for the dishonest. Let us carry this Bill first, and then public opinion will become strengthened, as it will become simplified, on the subject of admitting Dissenters, and we shall have gained the power for that ulterior measure.

#### ENGLAND SELF-ACCUSING.

REGRETS have been expressed that the first castigation bestowed by the English and French armies upon Russia should have fallen upon the town of Odessa—a regret which makes a distinction between a people and its Government. As a concession the distinction may sometimes be made, but a people can never claim to be reckoned apart from its Government; and when we in England speak of Downing-street as distinct from the nation, the reproach conveyed does not tell so severely upon the officials who usurp the authority as upon the people who suffer the usurpation. If a nation has a Government which entails calamities upon it, that nation must suffer, and it is well that the responsibility should not be forgotten. The Finlanders have reason just now to observe that they are liable to seizure and to banish-

ment from their native land, because they have suffered their province to remain in the possession of a barbarian Czar of Muscovy, instead of keeping true to their old kingdom and the dynasty freely chosen by the Swedes. The same reply must be made to the Greeks, who allege in extenuation of their own irregular conduct that they are burdened with a vicious Government. Why do they make war upon the Sultan, who does them at present no injury, and connive at the Russian intrigues of a miserable court, which has prevented the development of true civilisation in the East, has rendered anarchy permanent, and has, by its bad government, been virtually the protector of brigands? Greece and its Government must go together. If it were convenient for any foreign State to make a distinction between the two, that State might do so; but the Greeks cannot claim to be exempt from responsibility for the acts of the Government which they keep over them.

We shall always be ready to extend the same truth broadly and vigorously, and to hold every people answerable for the Government which it suffers to rule it, and for the acts of that Government. It is true that a country may be wronged by its Government, as Italy has been, because that Government was supported by a conspiracy of other States to put down the Italians, and to uphold the idiotic tyranny of Naples, or the alien tyranny of Austria; but this conspiracy of dynasties would have been impossible, if the people of those other States had done their duty to themselves and their neighbours. Downing-street has on many occasions lent to the Italians a traitorous assistance; inciting them to rebel, and then leaving them in the lurch, just as the rebellion might have attained its fruits. Three marked years, 1812, 1821, and 1848, furnish instances which justify the Sicilians in branding Downing-street with infamy. But who was it that permitted Downing-street to usurp the title of "England," to use at its pleasure the navies of England, and to spend money out of the English coffers? Those acts would have been impossible, if they had not had the sufferance of the people of England. The treason then after all is brought home to the English people.

A great discussion has arisen on the reports of the *Times* correspondent as to the state of the troops at Gallipoli. He says that they are ill-furnished, ill-lodged, ill-fed, ill-equipped with hospital accommodation. The Duke of Newcastle declares, in the House of Lords, that the statement is impossible, because contracts have been concluded for food, the quarter has been selected by proper officers, and hospital-ships have been sent to supply the deficiencies on shore. This may be all very true; but still it must be really a matter of fact, and not a matter of opinion and argument. The lodgings at Gallipoli appear to be bad, and calling them good will not alter the case. The contracts may have been concluded, but has not rotten lamb been found wrapped up in a hay contract, and garbage in packages of "preserved meat"? If the tents, the plaisters, and the attendants of the sick had been there, why would the want have been noticed? We very much doubt whether the Duke, whose own attention to the matter is beyond question, has not been deceived. We know that medical men regard the staff of officers in their profession, which has been sent out to the East, as quite insufficient for the probable duties. There is, of course, no lack of competent officers to be appointed out of the medical profession, and any deficiency must be simply an official blunder; or, what is worse, that deliberate slight of duty which is dictated by the pampered pride born of aristocratic feeling and Downing-street cliquers. How the truth stands we do not know; but really the

officials have some right to behave as they please.

They have their warrant in the passiveness of the English people. These questions are military matters, and the English people takes no interest in military matters. It is not a military people. It has laid aside the gun and sword, and does not trouble its head about such matters. Indeed, the English people scarcely exists as a people, or exercises a political function. Its largest numbers are absorbed just now in questions of wages, the method of earning them, and of resisting reduction. Its next more numerous class is attending to trade, the opportunities of fluctuations thereof. But military matters are left to the exclusive attention of the governing political classes and of the profession of arms. Practically, therefore, all that is really military in the English people resides in those limited classes; and thus our aristocracy and paid soldiery have a right to consider the matter their affair exclusively, and not that of their "constituents."

Lord Campbell is passing a bill through the House of Lords to forbid the English people from communicating with any foreign sovereign, presenting addresses to any foreign state, or sending deputies; and nobody thinks of interfering with the bill. Certainly none of the people, who perhaps think that it is quite right to pass a retrospective libel upon the statesmen who communicated with William of Orange.

There are loud complaints at the passiveness of Lord Aberdeen: we have not yet the evidence which would enable us to judge decisively upon the merits of that question. Lord Aberdeen may have a defence, and may be able to show that he has been active in the English service, but he does not produce his defence. And why should he? The English people does not call for it; and no man volunteers to plead in the dock. We have our suspicions, indeed: although Lord Aberdeen is honest, and is not playing any trick to serve Russia,—although we have no reason to concur in the assumption that he is sacrificing English interests to preserve dynastic interests abroad,—we do gather from the statements of Lord Clarendon and his colleagues two rather unsatisfactory conclusions. First, that Lord Clarendon and the other Ministers dread, even more than the continuance of Russian tyranny and absolutist oppression, the outbreak of any democratic movement on the Continent; although there is no democratic government whatever that has been so uniformly and so enduringly cruel as despotic governments are. Secondly, we gather that Lord Aberdeen and his colleagues have no intention of doing what they ought in bringing the Emperor of Russia down to the feet of the states whom he has offended, in forcing full retribution upon his insolent head, and rendering him powerless for ever. In the name of "moderation," they will no doubt, if they can, withhold their hands in the moment of triumph, abstain from victory, and give to Nicholas not a ticket-of-leave, but a full pardon. This would be a defeat of justice, a frustration of English victory, a denial of the right of triumph to the English people; but the English people have no cause to complain, because they do not assert themselves, but let Lord Aberdeen, Lord Clarendon, Lord Campbell, and gentlemen of that class, do as they please in the name of "England."

#### THE ROWLAND HILL OF THE PENNY RECEIPT-STAMP.

We see by the Liverpool papers that a testimonial is being subscribed for among the mercantile body of that town to Mr. James Reay, whose chief merit, among several enu-

merated, seems to be that he first proposed, and, after many years' application succeeded in procuring the adoption of, the happy fiscal idea of a "penny receipt-stamp." Now, here appears an instance, such as that which at last ceases to be mentioned in the case of Rowland Hill, of a public service overlooked and neglected by an aristocratic Government bureau. The penny receipt-stamp confers a great public benefit, and why is it that the inventor of it lives unrewarded? The case is entitled to some attention, and, at least, if the remuneration is to be a private subscription, that subscription should be extended beyond a single provincial town. We refer to the matter less, however, for the individual interest than for the purpose of pointing the moral—that the new Civil Service scheme will be miserably incomplete if some provision be not made for the earlier appreciation of the Rowland Hills by the too "well-connected" Colonel Maberly.

## A "STRANGER" IN PARLIAMENT.

PARLIAMENT is discovering this week why it is permitted to re-assemble: evidently for the purpose of receiving, on the Commons' table, those satirical documents to a supply-controlling body,—the "Supplementary Estimates." And this heroic people which has undertaken with such heartiness to support the non-existent independence of Turkey, will now begin to ascertain what heroism costs when it is managed by adroit statesmen in the interest of governing classes, who have a country to take care of and give up to it their (younger) sons. The war must be becoming very popular. Ten millions sterling is the outlay already, by way of a start, and not a blow struck! Meanwhile, interest of the public service still requiring that Government should give no news of the war, and should never mention a syllable as to what the war is about.

The Coalition doesn't suspect it; but it is going down, very fast, in public estimation: the only comfort that is to be suggested being this—that no other party is going up. In this age the chief test of a Government's capacity is its finance: and, on finance, the Coalition is all wrong. The Coalition was contrived for the purpose of carrying on the Queen's Government, and it is not carrying on the Queen's Government—it is only keeping the Queen's Government at a stand-still—the government of the war included. There is a fatality about the Coalition: it fails in everything. The session is a series of disasters, and all *prestige* is disappearing: and only that the Radicals are Ministerialists,—to their conspicuous disgrace consenting to an Oxford Reform Bill which excludes Dissenters,—making no opposition to a ludicrous Militia Bill—and letting the National Debt increase 10,000,000/- per quarter, without obtaining any condition as to the application of the money,—the country would ring with an agitation against all the Talents, who can carry nothing. What has happened to the Reform Bill has happened with all their bills; they are all burked, or botched, or aborted. The Poor-law Bill gone—the only regret being that Mr. Baines did not go with it. The Oaths Bill with no chance. The Railway and Canal Bill so cut down, that if Government does gain what it wanted, Mr. Cardwell loses his reputation. Then the Oxford Reform Bill: on Monday night Government was defeated on it, and on Thursday they so narrowly escaped another defeat that Mr. Gladstone rushed into an anticipatory passion—the arrangement being, that, if put into a minority, Government would withdraw the bill altogether. But Mr. Gladstone was in such a passion, not because of his fears for Oxford reform, but because of his apprehensions of the failure of his own finance. He may afford indifference to City sneers about his commutation and Exchequer schemes. But he is finding out that he cannot get on without a loan, and that he has blundered in not having faced that necessity from the first.

But for the Oxford Reform question, and Mr. Gladstone's bad temper thereon, the week would have been without an incident. And there is much political meaning in the strange fact that an Oxford

Reform question is the question of an English week. Mr. Bright mentioned on Thursday, that that morning he had received a circular letter, signed by no one, and addressed by no one, entreating his attention in his place at five o'clock, P.M., when the Oxford bill would be on; and there is no doubt that the attendance on that bill has been greater than on any other bill. For instance, on the Thursday, for an hour and a half the senate was engaged in a discussion on the best legislation for railways, and during that time the railway directors who are M.P.s—none others—were present. But at the end of the hour and a half, on came the Oxford bill; the smoking-room emptied at once, and up till twelve the House filled and filled until it was positively crowded—packed. Now, why does the affair of a large school, which is just about as national in its influence as the Blue-coat School, occupy more attention than the affairs of the vast commercial interest involved in the iron roads of these kingdoms? Because the large school is the school of the governing classes themselves, who are educated in it, and are educating their children in it. The Oxford bill is properly nothing more than a private bill; it is a bill to regulate a property which is not at all national property. But it is a private bill affecting matters personally interesting to a large section of the House of Commons, and accordingly the private bill occupies public time for a couple of nights in a week of four nights. The young Tories were not disposed to lose their chance in having a debate about what, for the first time in their senatorial career, they found they could understand; and it did one's heart good, the other day, to hear how solemnly they cheered Mr. Horsman's warning against Rationalistic systems as distinguished from the Christianity they adored, and how cheerfully they, on Thursday, applauded Mr. Roundell Palmer's suggestion, that the Oxford tutors produced no books fit to be read (which was made a sneer against them), simply because they were devoted to educating their pupils—this education being better than that of any other European university:—the said suggestion being of a character one was privileged to doubt when one saw the young Tories opening their mouths at Mr. Roundell Palmer's Latin quotation. The young Tories were present in great abundance on Thursday, and they behaved themselves very badly:—the Carlton Club *esprit* breaking out virulently when Mr. Gladstone was on his legs. It is difficult to say why; but the young Tories hate Mr. Gladstone, and they were "down" on him on Thursday when he lost his temper with Mr. Henley, because Mr. Henley tried to be funny (which was a sad sight) about Mr. Gladstone knowing better than he did as to whether or not there had been a Tractarian tendency in Oxford during the last fifteen years. Certainly Mr. Gladstone provoked these insulting and derisive cheers; for he was very intense in his manner, and too contemptuous to his adversaries to convince them of his tact: and next morning he no doubt admitted that good temper is a good thing, more particularly when dull squires have to be dealt with, and that it was hardly worthy of him or his position to get up a House of Commons' jeer on a scene between himself and a Mr. Henley—the whole gratification being to the young Tories, who came away from *Fidelio* to laugh at him. It is no wonder he is irritable. Not to mention the financial perplexities of a Chancellor of the Exchequer, who has gone on talking of the certainty of peace while the supplementary estimates were pouring in, there are circumstances about this Oxford bill sufficient to depress him. It is a "Reform" bill which has to face obstructions without being accompanied by the sympathy of Reformers: and carrying it through the Commons by the mere dead weight of negative and indifferent votes, he has had to do all the propulsive talking by himself, just as though it were a Budget he was in charge of;—Lord John's assistance being of the sort strong men like to do without. And, then, the bill is not his own bill, but a compromise bill, for which he is only half responsible, though he will have to bear the whole unpopularity of it. Mr. Gladstone must be finding out that he is not the kind of man that can sink individuality in a Coalition Government by departments.

Minus the Oxford bill, what is the Parliamentary

week? But for yesterday's supplementary estimates, what reason could anybody have discovered for the re-assembling of Parliament? Of course the House of Commons passes the supplementary estimates;—the House of Commons, if it will at present pass nothing else, will pass any amount of estimates. Last night the question was about a vote of nearly 6,000,000/-; but for several hours only twenty or thirty members were present to officiate in the expensive ceremony, and in the preliminaries of discursive comment, not being objection, which preceded it; and even those members,—they included Mr. Hume and Mr. Williams, who restrained themselves only by dogged but not dignified efforts,—could scarcely be induced to listen to the forcible, though tautological, entreaties of Mr. Disraeli, that they would observe the marvellously absurd position of the Government finance. They did listen—this House of Commons, which would know nothing whatever of the war but for the daily press—to the imbecile and ill-conditioned inuendos of Mr. Henry Drummond against the "gabbling" newspaper correspondents who, in the East, expose the incompetency of class-Government to conduct a great war. The House heard the expressions of Mr. Drummond's disgust at the freedom of a more or less free people's well-taxed press; criticisms on antislavery commanders;—the House of Commons, which has abnegated all its functions into abject acquiescence in everything Ministerial—except Ministerial bills—is just at this moment in a mood to listen to the proposition already debated in Louis Napoleon's Cabinet—whether consideration for the public service does not require that newspapers should cease to publish news. The House would listen and cheer to anybody and everybody who declaims against any efforts of journalism to let its enlightened public know why it is having supplementary estimates. But what the House would not hear of was the impoliteness of Mr. Disraeli in alluding to the oddity of the Budget having been all wrong. Mr. Disraeli's couple of speeches were overwhelming—it is doubtful what would have become of Mr. Gladstone had he been present; and yet the jaunty and complacent nothings uttered by Lord John in reply—uttered in the careless tone of a man chatting at a dinner-table—were hailed and cheered as the most crushing wit. As Mr. Laing—who takes a chairman-of-committee's view of Parliamentary tactics—said, it was wrong to raise a discussion upon finance in committee of supply, when Mr. Laing thought the only question should be as to the propriety and accuracy of the different estimates. No doubt Mr. Disraeli was somewhat disorderly in destroying a Government [in City opinion] in a parenthetical set of observations, at an unexpected moment, and when Mr. Gladstone was quietly at home preparing for Monday, and Mr. Bernal Osborne was wanting to be off to an evening party—after having got his few millions sterling. But it is probable that Mr. Disraeli rushed into his trenchant criticisms precisely because Budget No. 2 had been fixed for Monday, that he might damage Mr. Gladstone in advance; and it is also probable that this malignant adroitness will succeed. Clearly Mr. Disraeli felt victory in his grasp, when—joyous—violent—boisterous—he rose gaily for a second time, and, unsubdued by the stern sorrow of Mr. Hume's look, beat down all Lord John's loose guards. He could not have looked so happy unless he had felt satisfied that England was, at last, ruined.

Saturday Morning.

"A STRANGER."

MEDIOCRITY.—Mediocrity is, after all, the best thing in life. The tasteless commonplaces are the standards—bread and water, and good, dull, steady people. I'd as soon lodge over a powder-magazine as live with a genius. There's M—, whose poems are like sparkling champagne at the first reading, and like a second day's claret at the next. I'd rather drink water than nectar for a continuance. Leaves are neither crimson nor gold colour, but plain sober green.

RUSSIAN YACHTS.—According to a letter from the Baltic, the Emperor of Russia has ordered that all the boats belonging to the members of the Yacht Club of the Neva shall be placed at the service of the State, to form part of the flotilla of armed row-boats which is being formed at Sweaborg and Cronstadt, to act against Sir Charles Napier.

## Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

This is Magazine week. *Fraser*, though not particularly brilliant, has some points of interest, among which the article on *Cronstadt and the Russian Fleet* is pre-eminent; but as this is made a subject of notice on another page, we need only commend that notice to the reader's attention. The charming *Gallinaceana* are continued in a paper on pheasants, brimful of erudition, humour, and useful every-day knowledge. Here is a curious fact in natural history, with a piece of information in poultry-yard therapeutics which, if not already known, will be welcome to the happy readers who possess poultry-yards:—

“What are the ‘gapes’?”

“The *Naz* of the Northumbrians, my dear madam; and if, being learned, as all ladies now are, you object that this is *ignotum per ignotius*, we will endeavour to describe the disease, not forgetting the remedy.

“In the *gapes* the chick,—and all birds of the poultry kind seem subject to the disease, in their youth,—is constantly extending the neck upwards, and opening the bill, as if gasping. As the disease progresses a marked change takes place: the chick is no longer lively and active, but languid and moping, with drooping wings, which give it the appearance not inaptly described by a child, who used to call the patients ‘sack-backs.’ The disease is caused by the presence of an intestinal worm—*entozoon* of the initiated, which adheres to the internal surface of the windpipe, causing death by suffocation, which sometimes arises from inflammation of the *trachea*, and sometimes from actual obstruction. This curious and destructive *entozoon* consists of two beings joined together for life. The bifid extremity was taken, by early observers, for a double head, whence Rudolphi's name, *Distoma lineare*; but it is, in reality, due to the united presence of the two sexes. The short male is affixed to the long female by means of an integument binding him to her; but if this integument be cut open two distinct animals appear. From this indissoluble matrimonial tie—indissoluble except by violence, arises the more modern and now generally received name, *Syngamus trachealis*.

“Tobacco is said to be an infallible remedy, when administered carefully, especially in the early stages of the disease.

“But how is the tobacco to be administered?

“Put your chicks, whether pheasants, turkeys, or common fowls, into a wooden box, and blow in the fumes through tobacco-pipe. This was Montagu's plan, and, no doubt, it has, in many cases, succeeded; perhaps it would succeed in all if great attention were paid, but care must be taken, or the remedy will be nearly as bad as the disease. A nearer cure is effected by a pinch of common salt, put far back into the mouth of the sufferer, so as effectively to reach the upper part of the trachea.”

An article on *Wolf Nurses in India* calls attention to a pamphlet which a year or two ago was published at Plymouth, and is therefore little known, but which is said to have been written by a distinguished Indian officer, whose name, if allowed to be mentioned, would be held a guarantee for the truth of its statements. It is not *a priori* incredible that the plentiful stories, mythical and romantic, of children nurtured by wild animals,—from that of Romulus and Remus down to the pathetic tale in the *Fair Maid of Perth*, of the Highland chieftain who, having been suckled by a hind, has the hind's cowardice, and runs away from the battle which is to decide the fate of his clan,—may have their prototypes in reality. The difficulty in accepting anecdotes like these Indian ones, must turn rather on the general unreliability of testimony than on the nature of the alleged facts. In India the wolf is regarded as a sacred animal, and it is believed that a village community within whose boundaries a drop of wolf's blood has fallen, is doomed to destruction. Consequently, in districts where there are few Europeans, the wolves, multiplying unchecked, are very destructive, and there is no question that children are often carried off by them. The “Indian officer” has met with what he considers trustworthy evidence, that some of the children thus carried off have been discovered after a lapse of years, domesticated with a wolf and her cubs. The following is the most remarkable instance:—

“About seven years since a trooper, in attendance upon Rajah Hurdut Singh, of Bondee, on the left bank of the Ghagra river, in the district of Bahraich, in passing near a small stream, saw there two wolf cubs and a boy, drinking. He managed to seize the boy, who seemed to be about ten years old, but was so wild and fierce that he tore the trooper's clothes and bit him severely in several places. The Rajah at first had him tied up in his artillery gun-shed, and fed him with raw meat, but he was afterwards allowed to wander freely about the Bondee bazaar. He there one day ran off with a joint of meat from a butcher's shop, and another of the bazaar keepers let fly an arrow at him, which penetrated his thigh. A lad named Janoo, servant of a Cashmere merchant, then at Bondee, took compassion on the poor boy, extracted the arrow from his thigh, and prepared a bed for him under a mango-tree, where he himself lodged. Here he kept him fastened to a tent-pin. Up to this time he would eat nothing but raw flesh, but Janoo gradually brought him to eat balls of rice and pulse.

“In about six weeks after he had been tied up under the tree, after much rubbing of his joints with oil, he was made to stand and walk upright. Hitherto he had gone on all-fours. In about four months he began to understand and obey signs. In this manner he was taught to prepare the hookah, put lighted charcoal on the tobacco, and bring it to Janoo, or to whomsoever he pointed out. He was never heard, however, to utter more than one articulate sound. This was ‘Abodeea,’ the name of the little daughter of a Cashmere mimic, or player, who had once treated him with kindness. The odour from his body was very offensive; and Janoo had him rubbed with mustard-seed soaked in water in the hope of removing it. This was done for some months, during which he was still fed on rice and flour; but the odour did not leave him.

“One night, while the boy was lying under the mango-tree, Janoo saw two wolves creep stealthily towards him; and after smelling him, they touched him, and he got up. Instead, however, of being frightened, the boy put his hands upon their heads, and they began to play with him, capering about him, whilst he threw straw and leaves at them. Janoo tried to drive them off, but could not; and becoming much alarmed, he called to the sentry over the guns, and told him that the wolves were going to eat the boy. He replied, ‘Come away and leave him, or they will eat you also;’ but when Janoo saw them begin to play together his fears subsided, and he continued to watch them quietly. At last he succeeded in driving them off; but the following night three wolves came—and a few nights after four—which returned several times. Janoo thought that the two which first came must have been the cubs with which the boy was found, and that they would have seized him had they not recognised him by the smell. They licked his face with their tongues as he put his hands on their heads.

“When Janoo's master returned to Lucknow, he was, after some difficulty, persuaded to allow Janoo to take the boy with him. Accordingly, Janoo led him along by a string tied

to his arm, and put a bundle of clothes on his head. Whenever they passed a jungle, the boy would throw down his bundle, and make desperate attempts to escape. When beaten, he raised his hands in supplication, took up his bundle, and went on; but the sight of the next jungle produced the same excitement. A short time after his return to Lucknow, Janoo was sent away by his master for a day or two, and found on his return that the boy had disappeared. He could never be found again.

“About two months after the boy had gone, a woman of the weaver caste came to Lucknow, with a letter from the Rajah of Bondee, stating that her son, when four years old, had, five or six years before, been carried off by a wolf; and from the description given of the boy whom Janoo had taken away with him, she thought he must be the same. She described marks corresponding with those on Janoo's boy; but although she remained some considerable time at Lucknow, no traces could be found of the boy; and at last she returned to Bondee. All these circumstances were procured by the writer of the pamphlet from Sannaullah, Janoo's master, and from Janoo himself, both of whom declared them to be strictly true. The boy must have been with the wolf six or seven years, during which she must have had several litters of whelps.”

It is worth while to notice an article on Archbishop Whately's *Cautions for the Times*, as a specimen of a kind of “piece-work” which ought not to find its way into a respectable periodical. We tolerate the penny-a-liner of a daily paper, when he tells us that the rain was “of the heaviest description”—society has not yet reached that pitch of culture at which a penny-a-liner can be expected to have the accomplished intellect that delights in curious felicities of expression. But when he oversteps his vocation, and, with a degree of capacity and acquirement on a par with that of a superior parish clerk, aspires to occupy the pages of an important magazine, we lose patience. Archbishop Whately is a celebrated man; thus much the reviewer knows, and it is his cue to praise the archbishop's book. Read his praise, it is amusing:—

“In a book consisting of a series of numbers, every one of which is interesting, and important in the highest degree, it is difficult to select any portions for quotation, simply, for this reason, that *all appear equally worthy*. But amongst the most insidious errors with which we have at present to deal, are we not justified in stating, that the Theology of the German school, of which the writings of Strauss and Theodore Parker give us a fair specimen, is not the least important? Against this system, too, a most valuable caution is provided, and Number 29, which closes the volume, and is directed against these errors, *we will venture to assert is as powerful a composition as has appeared in the English language*.”

He gives us some quotations which enable us to appreciate his courage in venturing this assertion; and one of the quotations is introduced thus:—

“If our space permitted, we would gladly quote more at length from this admirable tract; we cannot, however, refrain from giving the following extract, with which our readers, we are sure, will be gratified just as we were ourselves when first we read it.”

This is the lowest depth of contented unmeaningness, not even searching for anything beyond a hackneyed phrase which will serve to round a sentence.

In *Blackwood* we have a racy satire on the opposite vice in style—the spasmodic striving after more meaning than the universe contains, or than the language of common sense will convey. A critique on *Firmilian, a Tragedy*, supposed to be printed for private circulation, is the vehicle of a rich burlesque on the style of sundry modern poets, and one critic of modern poets.

“The hero of the piece, Firmilian, is a student in the University of Badajoz, a poet, and entirely devoted to his art. He has been engaged for some time in the composition of a tragedy upon the subject of Cain, which is ‘to win the world by storm;’ but he unfortunately discovers, after he has proceeded a certain length in his task, that he has not yet thoroughly informed himself, by experience, of the real nature of the agonies of remorse. He finds that he cannot do justice to his subject without steeping his own soul in guilt, so as to experience the pangs of the murderer; and as, according to the doctrines of the spasmodic school of poetry, such investigations are not only permitted, but highly laudable, he sets himself seriously to ponder with what victim he should begin. All our spasmodic poets introduce us to their heroes in their studies, and Mr. Percy Jones follows the tradition. He does not, however, like some of them, carry his imitative admiration of Goethe's *Faust* so far, as personally to evoke Lucifer or Mephistopheles—an omission for which we are really thankful. Firmilian begins by a soliloquy upon his frame of mind and feeling; and states himself to be grievously perplexed and hindered in his work by his comparative state of innocence. He then meditates whether he should commence his course of practical remorse by putting to death Mariana, a young lady to whom he is attached, or three friends and fellow-students of his, with whom he is to dine next day. After much hesitation, he decides on the latter view, and, after looking up ‘Raymond Lullius’ for the composition of a certain powder, retires to rest after a beautiful but somewhat lengthy apostrophe to the moon. There is nothing in this scene which peculiarly challenges quotation.”

“I knew a poet once; and he was young,  
And intermingled with such fierce desires  
As made pale Eros veil his face with grief,  
And caused his lustier brother to rejoice.  
He was as amorous as a crocodile  
In the spring season, when the Memphian bank,  
Receiving substance from the glaring sun,  
Resolves itself from mud into a shore.  
And—as the scaly creature wallowing there,  
In its hot fits of passion, belches forth  
The stream from out its nostrils, half in love,  
And half in grim defiance of its kind;  
Trusting that either, from the reedy fen,  
Some reptile-virgin coyly may appear,  
Or that the hoary Sultan of the Nile  
May make tremendous challenge with his jaws,  
And, like Mark Antony, assert his right  
To all the Cleopatras of the oze—  
So fared it with the poet that I knew.”

“But, would you know what noon tide ardour is,  
Or in what mood the lion, in the waste,  
All fever-maddened, and intent on cube,  
At the oasis waits the lioness—  
That shall you gather from the fiery song  
Which that young poet framed, before he dared  
In invade the vastness of his lady's lips.”

Firmilian goes to meditate “on a locality which would never have occurred to any but the most exalted imagination”—the summit of the pillar of St. Simeon Stylites. There he is joined by a brother poet, and after some conversation he seizes the opportunity of widening his experience by hurling his “friend and brother” from the column. Meanwhile, Apollodorus, a critic, is thus soliloquising below:—

"Why do men call me a presumptuous cur,  
A vapouring blockhead, and a turgid fool,  
A common nuisance, and a charlatan?  
I've dashed into the sea of metaphor  
With a strong paddle as the sturdiest ship  
That churns Medusa into liquid light,  
And dashed at every object in my way.  
My ends are public. I have talked of men  
As my familiars, whom I never saw.  
Nay—more to raise my credit—I have penned  
Epistles to the great ones of the land,  
When some attack might make them slightly sore,  
Assuring them, in faith, it was not I.  
What was their answer? Marry—shortly this:  
'Who, in the name of Zernebock, are you?'  
I have reviewed myself incessantly—  
Yea, made a contract with a kindred soul  
For mutual interchange of puffery.  
Gods—how we blew each other! But, 'tis past—  
Those halcyon days are gone; and, I suspect,  
That in some fit of loathing or disgust,  
Mine ancient playmate hath deserted me.  
And yet I am Appollodorus still!  
I search for genius, having it myself,  
With keen and earnest longings. I survive  
To disentangle, from the imping wings  
Of our young poets, their crustaceous slough.  
I watch them as the watcher on the brook  
Sees the young salmon wrestling from its egg,  
And revels in its future bright career."

"Towards the firmament  
I gaze with longing eyes; and, in the name  
Of millions thirsting for poetic draughts,  
I do beseech thee, send a poet down!  
Let him descend e'en as a meteor falls,  
Rushing at noonday—

*[He is crushed by the fall of the body of HAVERILLO.]*

"We then find Firmilian wandering among the mountains, and lavishing a superfluity of apostrophe upon the rocks, forests, and cataracts around him. Whatever may be his moral deficiencies, we are constrained to admit that he must have studied the phenomena of nature to considerable purpose at the University of Badajoz, since he explains, in no fewer than twelve pages of blank verse, the glacier theory, entreating his own attention—for no one is with him—to the striated surface of rocks and the forcible displacement of boulders. He then, by way of amusement, works out a question in comic sections. But, notwithstanding these exercitations, he is obviously not happy. He is still as far as ever from his grand object, the thorough appreciation of remorse—for he can assign a distinct moral motive for each atrocity which he has committed. He at last reluctantly arrives at the conclusion that he is not the party destined—

To shrine that page of history in song,  
And utter such tremendous cadences,  
That the mere babe who hears them at the breast,  
Sans comprehension, or the power of thought,  
Shall be an idiot to its dying hour!  
I deemed my verse would make pale Hecate's orb  
Grow wan and dark; and into ashes change  
The radiant star-dust of the milky-way.  
I deemed that pestilence, disease, and death  
Would follow every strophe—for the power  
Of a true poet, prophet as he is,  
Should rack creation!

"If this view of the powers of poets and poetry be correct, commend us to the continuance of a lengthened period of prose!"

In Bentley's *Miscellany* there is one serious and very sensible paper—*How to deal with the Greeks*; G race Greenwood pursues pleasantly enough the narrative of her travelling adventures; Shirley Brooke and others continue their fictions.

The *Dublin University Magazine* has an interesting article on *Dante and his Translators*, a genial notice of Professor Wilson's life and character, and some readable sketches of *French Dramatists and Actors*.

#### THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

*The Constitution of the United States compared with our Own.* By Hugh Seymour Tremenheere. 1854.

MR. TREMENHEERE'S volume is a valuable contribution to the works of discussion on American politics, with a reference to European interests and the course of events on this side of the Atlantic. We put no qualification upon that description, although the book does, in reality, not fulfil its title. Mr. Tremenheere professes to discuss the Constitution of the United States, and to compare it with our own; but the real substance of his volume is to consider at great length the origin, rise, progress, and probable results of certain abuses incidental to the practice as well as the constitution of the United States, as those abuses may be surveyed from the point of view supplied by an acquaintance with English politics. The Constitution of the United States, as expounded by the statute setting forth its principles and enactments, as developed in the history of the country or in the opinions of eminent Americans, is not set forth in any part of this volume; and the reader who expects to find it there, will discover that he must still seek it in the works of Jefferson, Marshall, Kent, or Bancroft with the reconstructions that it has derived from philosophical inquiries like De Tocqueville, or travellers like Arfwedson and Grund. Nor is the Constitution of the United States compared with our own, for our constitution is not set forth. Comparisons, indeed, occasionally arise, but they are very partial, and anything like a parallel exposition is absent from the volume. Nevertheless, we regard it as very valuable.

Mr. Tremenheere, as we gather from this book, is thoroughly imbued with the opinions at present dominant in England. He is, as everybody knows, familiar with official affairs; he has been usefully employed in the business of examining and reporting on specific subjects, and if he does nothing more, at all events he puts into a compact, intelligible, and accessible form, we may say, the views of a Whig on the Constitution of the United States, its dangerous tendencies, and its actual abuses. It will be very useful for those who desire to arrive at the truth respecting the American Constitution; since it points out to them the points which they are to

study and the tendencies which should most particularly engage their examination.

It has, we think, a further use; though this was not intended by the author. It sets forth the feelings of an able and experienced Whig politician on the subject of active political practice in America, and enables us to discover in what it is, that the Whigs or Liberals of the present day are below the argument of the constitution at home, respecting which they boast so much. We discover from Mr. Tremenheere's volume that the political principles of his party depend more upon the fear of certain national Powers which called their party into existence, than upon any well-understood principles *a priori*, or upon any enlarged conception of the method by which national powers have been worked out in practice.

The history of America forms an appendix, continuation, or branch of our own history, and the moral which it tells is exactly the same as that of our own history, with some instructive diversity in the mode of presenting the moral during these latter years. In extremely modern times it has become the practice to view every human proceeding with regard to certain didactic pre-conceived objects of the course of action, and too little regard has been paid to that necessity which the history of every country teaches, for keeping up the energy of a people by affording scope for the action of that people. Now, the whole history of America is a proof of the fruits which spring from well-developed energy. The very first discovery of the continent, dictated, if you like, by personal ambition to secure distinction and immortality in history, by a vague idea of acquiring wealth, by projects of creating states and founding empires, can only be traced with any distinctness to the one common source—an inherent sense of energy in the men who took the lead, and a desire to exercise that energy in a novel and striking manner. Columbus, who pestered the monarchs of Europe for the means without which he could not have landed on the western shores of the Atlantic; John and Sebastian Cabot, who followed his example, and first landed on the Spanish Main under the patronage of Henry VII.; Cartier, who bore the French flag up the St. Lawrence; Columbus's companion, Ponce de Leon, who discovered Pascua Florida—Flowery Easter—since called Florida; Cortes and Pizarro, who bore the Spanish and Portuguese flags in Mexico and Peru; and Soto, who landed in Cuba; to say nothing of the Norwegians, the Germans, the Dutch, or the Swedes, who traditionally preceded some of these men on the western shores, or planted the family names of their country in the region now occupied by the United States,—these are nothing more than individual examples of the energy which they lived in Europe, burning for an extension of the field on which it might exercise itself, and so "calling into existence," as Canning said, for all human purposes, "a new world," with everything that has followed from the discovery of that region. In the very act of its discovery, America is the greatest monument to the practical benefit derived from energy, exercised for its own sake. It would have been truly impossible for any one of the men concerned to define the results which have actually ensued from their blind instinct of exercising their faculties and spirit to the utmost; but if mankind were to stop its action to the pursuit of those objects alone, which it can define, we may sit down in supineness and say, that the history of civilisation had terminated with us: we have only to let our hair grow grey, and to prepare ourselves for the tomb of history and mankind.

It is the same with the history of colonisation in America. The adventurers who founded Virginia and named it after the Lion Queen; the Catholics who established themselves under the proprietary of Lord Baltimore in Maryland; the Dissenters who had suffered from the persecution which Protestants had copied from the Catholics they had conquered, and founded the evangelical states of New England; the Frenchmen who bore feudality to the banks of the St. Lawrence,—carried with them privileges, commissions, grants of land, titles, and royal authority, without stint or monotony of form,—privileges, grants, and authorities that died before they were put into practice, or have been swept away by the changeable weather of time. But the thing which they did carry over, whether French, Spaniard, or Anglo-Saxon, was the same energy of the adventurous discoverers, with so much of civilisation as they had learned in the old land, and with some renewed spirit of self-reliance alive in the body, the heart, and blood of the people themselves. Anybody who sought the history of America in the charters, grants, statutes, and patents by which the first colonies were founded would expect to find there a motley crew of states, Catholic, Royalist, aristocratic, commercial, and evangelical; but looking at the republic as it actually exists, he finds all these separate origins merged and fused into a republic, which may be reckoned to comprise thirty-six separate states, differing excessively in their physical geography; differing in their domestic institutions, in their local laws, even in details of electoral suffrage; but yet possessing a marked national characteristic in physiognomy, mind, and purpose, and presenting almost the sole example in the history of the world of a people who, under various conditions of qualifying test, exercise the electoral suffrage, and exercise also a practical influence on the conduct and policy of their supreme Government.

There were three things which the English colonists of America carried over with them, and it is important for us to distinguish these three things very distinctly. They were, first, the common law of this country, which means the usage that the people of this country had formed for itself; secondly, the rights which the people of this country had acquired, or were acquiring for themselves, by contest with the kings or nobles that had denied those rights; and thirdly, the bone and sinew, the hard-headed sagacity, and indomitable courage of the English people, at that time in its history when the national vigour was drawn forth to its utmost development by the contest with the Stuarts. Common law, established rights, and English pluck, were the three elements of the American republic drawn from England at the very height of her national activity. When King George III., with his hazy mind and high prerogative notions, aided by the financial wisdom of Mr. Grenville in 1763, or the Heaven-born inspirations of William Pitt, at a considerably later date, undertook to levy taxes on the colonists, without allowing those colonists any voice in the enactment, for purposes in which those colonists could have no share, then that same hard-headed sagacity taught the colonists the meaning of the act. Their vague conception of their common-law rights told them that they were injured; and "grit"

made them hit upon the right plan of redress. They began consistently with English moderation—very peaceably, first by protesting; then they went on, by abstaining from the use of the taxed articles, which required great sacrifice of comfort and convenience; then by pitching the taxed tea into the sea at Boston; and then—but not until soldiers had been landed in Boston to force them—by organising a revolutionary army, such as that which had placed King George's predecessor on the English throne, and, forming a "Congress" of the thirteen states, united to resist aggression. Thus they warred against a Government acting unlawfully; established their rights and their freedom at once; declared themselves independent, and founded a republic; a republic based upon the rights secured by Englishmen, and freed from the incumbrance of a throne.

Here we have the starting-point of the American constitution, which might perhaps go somewhat further than was necessary in giving ascendancy to purely popular authority, under the common mistake that the strength of one element in a state can only be protected by weakening some other element. The Americans weakened their executive, they have put restraint upon their judicial, while they have pampered the ambitions of the multitude; and thus they have unquestionably, to a certain extent, damaged the safeguards of their own constitution. They have encouraged a hypertrophy of popular influence that has, in all cases of disease, bred a parasite system of creatures living on the diseased part. What Mr. Tremenheere discusses is chiefly these defects and abuses in the constitution itself. The appointment of President for four years, elected by the whole body of electors in the several States; the election of the Senate, representing the States, whose local representatives elect the Senators, one-third of the Federal Senate to go out every two years; the election of the House of Representatives for two years, by the whole body of electors; the gradual change from certain qualifications, which in these early days were practically tantamount to universal suffrage to other forms of the same thing, the actual condition of the electorate in the United States. These things are very cursorily described by Mr. Tremenheere, who speaks of the abuses which have grown up in the practice of the Republic, almost as if they were the principal, if not the sole results of the system. He fails, indeed, to show that the "tyrant majority," whose power he denounces, have ever inflicted the torture, the slavery, the misery, which legitimate Governments are now inflicting, and have been for ages inflicting, in Europe. He fails to show that the representatives, whose small payment, he thinks, leaves them open to corruption, have indulged the weakness more than our own Members under the impulse of Capel Court; he fails to show that the conduct of foreign affairs, or the review of legislation, has ever suffered the slightest injury at the hands of the Senate, or that in the hands of the President, on a four years' lease, the Republic has not been able to possess the confidence of other states, and exercise a power in the world.

Nevertheless, he does bring evidence of abuses which it is important to notice. He describes, after the *New York Herald*, the traffic of a newly-grown profession in the United States, which mediates between electors and elected; and again between members of the Legislature, and those who desire the passing of particular measures. This is a profession exactly resembling our own election-agent class. Nor does the working of this profession rest upon the evidence of Mr. Tremenheere or the *Herald*. A committee of the House of Representatives introduced a bill to punish with fine and imprisonment any officer of the United States who should corruptly assist in the prosecution of any claim against the Government; that bill being the result, an investigation was made into the conduct of certain officials who had used forged evidence as their plea for satisfying the claims of a private person upon the United States Treasury. While the act was still a bill, Mr. Hale, of New Hampshire, in January, 1853, asked whether it would cover the case of agents who were in the habit of exacting "black mail" from sailors and officers in the navy to get business done before the department of Congress; and Mr. Hale was told that the bill did not cover such cases; which, however, thus received Parliamentary recognition. The substitution of extremely short periods—in some instances a single year, for the election of judges, is no doubt dangerous in the tendency to substitute the agents of party for really independent adjudicators. The unscrupulous bearing of majorities, which seek to crush the action and opinion of minorities, is another incident of the political system in the United States. But while we ask, what country is without its abuses, let us also point to the fact that the United States have hitherto furnished the inborn power which corrects these unhealthy tendencies. The Republic has never failed to supply judges of the Supreme Court who are constantly restoring the standards of the constitution, has amended that disposition to repudiate debt, which appeared in the early steps after the war, and more recently in Pennsylvania and its imitators; and has secured the payment of those liabilities, even as the debt of the war was honourably settled, by the over-ruling influence of public opinion.

In the historical portion of his survey, our author still keeps mainly to such incidents as fall in with his own view; and hence he is led into positive error. He is anxious to represent that the framers of the American Constitution never designed to establish a democracy, and he builds his argument on that assertion, which is undoubtedly correct; and no American will deny his assertion. But, on the other hand, the fathers of the American Constitution did establish a *Republic* on rational grounds, and although their children have advanced beyond them, they have not stretched the constitution beyond its capacity, nor set aside the *Republic* for a *Democracy*, as too many Englishmen seem to think they have. Mr. Tremenheere being of the number. At page 23 he says:—

"Jefferson's theory that the American colonists brought with them the 'rights of men' of 'expatriated men,' is false, and has no foundation in reason or history. And to prove that the Congress of 1774 did not hold Jefferson's views, he quotes from their Declaration of Rights, a passage which he carves to suit his use. The assertion can be rebutted from the same authority, that of the Congress of 1774. In their address to the colonists of Quebec, they say that, 'to live by the will of one man, or set of men, is the production of misery to all men,' and in another part of the same paper, they emphatically declare that 'every man who is supposed to be a free agent, ought to be concerned in his own government.' This was uttered nearly two years before the passage of the Declaration of Independence; and at a time when the colonists were doing their best to bring about such a reconciliation with the Home Government as would ensure to them the just administration of the English law."

The appeal which Mr. Tremenheere has invited to the constitution of the United States, revives our attention to certain fundamental principles which the founders of that constitution are careful to keep in living activity. The constitution established by the leaders of the Union was followed by the adoption of constitutions in the several States, which have been from time to time amended. The whole number of Federal and State statutes may be found in a volume published by Messrs. Hogan and Thompson, of Philadelphia; and it is interesting to observe that, besides declaring the inborn and natural equality of rights,—an abstract expression to which Mr. Tremenheere logically objects—they also constantly restore, as their own safeguards, the rights acquired by the English people in this country—the right to speak and publish sentiments freely without restraining laws; the right of bail or trial by jury; of representation for every freeman, and to short, the best of the rights secured to the English people by *Magna Charta* and the *Bill of Rights*. But there are two rights which these constitutions uniformly, either by express enactment or by implication, constantly repeats. We open by hazard upon the constitution of Maine, and find it written—

"That people have a right, at all times, in an orderly and peacefully manner, to assemble and consult upon the common good, to give instructions to their representatives, and to request of either department of the government, by petition or remonstrance, redress of their wrongs and grievances.

"Every citizen has a right to keep and bear arms for the common defence; and his right shall never be questioned. No standing army shall be kept up in time of peace, without the consent of the legislature; and the military shall, in all cases, and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power."

The constitution of the United States, after it left the hands of its first authors, has been subject to amendment dictated by experience. And it is remarkable that these amendments not only accord with the State enactments for the same purpose, but re-assert and restore the old rights claimed by the English people: free exercise of conscience, freedom of speech, and of the press, trial by jury, prohibition of excessive bail, and the right of petition for redress of grievances, are amongst those solemnly recorded in the amendments of the federal constitution. But there are two rights without which these others are nothing more than the practice of routine, or a traditional pretence without reality. The two rights, in the words of the amendment to the constitution, are these—"the right of the people peaceably to assemble," and not to be prevented from meeting as they have been at Stockport and Preston; and the most important right of all, thus expressed in the second article of the amendment:

"A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

As the state constitutions repeatedly affirm, the military must be kept in subordination to the civil power; but we know of no instance in history or the world where a strong power is subordinate to a weak power; and when a people has consented to be disarmed, it renders itself subordinate to the military power, and surrenders the sole means of preserving the right of assemblage, the right of free speech, of representation, of voting taxes, or anything else. When the English people permitted itself to be disarmed in the calms of peace, and relied upon parchment as the guarantees of rights which their forefathers took, and kept, only by strength of will and hand, they ceased really to be a free or self-governing people, and placed themselves at the mercy of military authority. It is the good luck of the English people, that the governing classes are upon the whole prudent, considerate persons; that the officers are limited in their ambitions; that the Crown loves a quiet life; and that a complicated system prevents any individual from attempting a *coup d'état*. But the best guarantee which the English people at present can boast, is the force of routine. The Americans, who retain by their own strength and will, "the right to have and to bear arms," hold in their own hands the only universal suffrage, the only true guarantee of freedom and self-government.

#### TALFOURD'S LAST VACATION RAMBLE.

Supplement to "Vacation Rambles," consisting of Recollections of a Tour through France to Italy, and Homeward by Switzerland, in the Vacation of 1846. By T. N. Talfourd.

Edward More.

It is needless to recommend this supplementary "Vacation Ramble" of the late lamented Judge Talfourd to any who have read—and there are probably few who have not read—the volumes that were its predecessors. It will be received with double interest at the present time, when the hand that traced these pleasant and vivid records of foreign scenes has been so recently stilled for ever. Indeed it is very touching to read the last words of this preface, in which, alluding to the hurried tours which formerly had been all permitted by the short vacations of an arduous professional life, the author expresses his satisfaction at being finally in "a position which is invested with no sharper anxieties than those which attend the endeavour to discharge its duties." In reading these sentences, probably the last literary production of Judge Talfourd's life, dated in the year of which few months only have yet expired, we experience feelings similar to those with which he has recorded his own meeting with the tremulous autograph of Sir W. Follett, in the travellers' book at Naples, written during his last fruitless journey in quest of health, and there read by his friend after the blow then impending had fallen.

The tour of which these pages are the journal was undertaken in 1846. It was a very hurried one, its principal object being Rome, with glimpses of Genoa, Naples, some of the northern towns of Italy, Chamonix, and four days at Paris. The ground, it will be perceived, is well trodden; but the charm of keen enjoyment, accurate observation, and a style justly celebrated among our modern writers for ease and elegance, give a freshness to well-known scenes. Our interest is increased by the fact that this visit to Rome was the author's first and only one: we feel naturally curious to know the impression produced by the imperial city upon a mind so deeply imbued with the classic spirit, and so capable of appreciating the beautiful and the sublime. We are at first surprised to find that that impression was one of disappointment; but on studying the Judge's account of his feelings, recorded with that frankness and simplicity which lends the book so great a

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charm, we understand it better. It was that very classical taste, that complete acquaintance with the spirit of the ancients, which caused his disappointment. The Rome of his imagination, the Rome of the scholar and the poet, he found overwhelmed beneath the traces of the subsequent phases of existence which had swept over her; the very ruins of that "eldest Rome" which, as he says, he came to reverence, were encumbered by a later desolation; the church had risen above the temple; the statues of the gods were worshipped—not perhaps with less abject superstition than that of yore—but under the names of the Christian saints who had laboured at their overthrow. This confusion of epochs and of associations struck painfully on an intellect whose great leading characteristics, we should say, were classical simplicity and taste. We are speaking of the general impression produced by Rome; before many of its individual glories and wonders that keen taste and delicate perception bowed in delighted adoration. We need only notice the description of the Coliseum:—

"From this 'impostor to true fear,' we were conducted to that ruin which no weather can efface; no sunshines glorify; no moonlight render more romantic—that huge oval which we had trembled at in passing—the Coliseum, which must surpass all expectation, however exalted. Prints have made the outlines of its form familiar; but no print, no picture, ever gave an adequate notion of the colossal power the reality exercises over the mind, which, for the first time, contemplates it. The rents which disclose the jagged masses of its walls to the eye, assist the perception of its magnitude, not so much by rendering the thickness of the walls palpable, as by counteracting the effect which else the beauty of its oval shape would produce in diminishing its apparent size. On the other hand, the sense of that very beauty, which is entirely preserved to the mind, though broken to the eye, enhances the idea of size, by suggesting the wonder, that a thing so beautiful should be also so stupendous. The trees which, rooted in its higher regions, wave in its openings or tower into the sky, also assist, by the standard they introduce, in procuring justice from the eye for its height; the arches and fountains beside it, noble in themselves, further aid in marking its supremacy; and the entire result of these combined felicities is the perception of a work of human hands beyond the architectural imagination of our *Martin to equal*."

and of the Pantheon:—

"Through a wide market-square, clogged with the baskets and stores of market-women, and strewn with vegetable refuse, we struggled to the Pantheon; which, of all the buildings I saw in Rome, was to me most replete with interest that cannot die. Its majestic portico and more majestic dome carry the mind a little way beyond the imperial mass of ruins out of which the grandeur of the empire towered; not far, indeed, into the republic, but into an age which was illustrated by its forms and embossed with the figures of its history. But there is a charm breathing in that perfect circle beyond the majestic beauty of its form—beyond even the shows of free greatness which were attendant on its origin—for it contains the ashes of the purest and holiest of painters—of Raphael, cut down in the flower of his life—the presence of which, after many generations, was attested by the exposure of the human hand which had wrought immortal wonders, disclosed entire to crumble at once into dust! The remains of other painters have clustered about this shrine, where the sense of beauty—the finest perfume of mortal life—will be breathed while Rome shall stand. Amidst the thoughts of power, greatness, oppression, and perverted faith, which the dead and the living Rome engendered in me, these which the sense of happiest art awakened at the tomb of its greatest master, were the serenest and the most welcome."

But, to bear out our previous remarks, we will also cite the last words upon Rome:—

"My first and last glimpse of Rome was about to close; so brief, that the attempt to fix any impressions it has left on me in words seems presumptuous; and yet I did not desire to prolong it. My preconceptions had been confused rather than realised by the array of great objects which had passed before me in rapid succession, and the trains of associations they suggested. Of the Rome of my schoolboy reverie—the mother of heroes and nurse of heroic thoughts—I had scarcely seen a memorial among the maze of imperial ruins and papal splendours; and in all that I feebly attempted to grasp, one set of associations so crushed another, or mingled so strangely with it, as to dissipate impressions that separately might have been worthless. The two ideas of Rome Imperial and Rome Papal, of the city of ruins and the city of churches and palaces, held frequent conflict in my thoughts, so that I could not follow Lord Byron in his impersonation of the Eternal City as the 'Niobe of Nations,' nor regard it as forming one mighty whole. If I may frankly confess the extent of my unworthiness to visit it, I must admit that, to my recollection, Rome seems an enormous museum—filled with the most wonderful works of human hands—exhibiting marvellous vestiges of human power, and embracing scenes of profound historical interest; but the various memories glide away in a succession of gorgeous temples, churches, and galleries. To leave it was to escape from a region of enchantment into the fresh air of humanity and nature; and, humiliating as the truth may be, I quitted it for ever without a sigh!"

We have several charming descriptions yet marked for extract; but we sacrifice them in order to present to our readers as much as possible of the complete and interesting analysis of the character and success of Sir W. Follett which follows the observation of his autograph, to which we have alluded above:—

"To me, the true secret of his peculiar strength appeared to lie in the possession of two powers which rarely co-exist in the same mind—extraordinary subtlety of perception and as remarkable simplicity of execution. In the first of these faculties—in the intuitive power of common sense which is the finest essence of experience whereby it attains 'to something of prophetic strain'—he excelled all his contemporaries except Lord Abinger, with whom it was more liable to be swayed by prejudice or modified by taste, as it was adorned with happier graces. The perfection of this faculty was remarkably exemplified in the fleeting visits he often paid to the trials of causes which he had left to the conduct of his juniors; a few words, sometimes a glance, sufficed to convey to his mind the exact position of complicated affairs, and enabled him to decide what should be done or avoided; and where the interference of any other advocate would have been dangerous, he often rendered good service, and—which was more extraordinary—never did harm. So his unrivalled aptitude for legal reasoning enabled him to deal with authorities as he dealt with facts; if unprepared for an argument he could find its links in the chaos of an index, and make an imposing show of learning out of a page of *Harrison*; and with the aid of the interruptions of the bench, which he could as dexterously provoke as parry, could find the right clue and conduct a luminous train of reasoning to a triumphant close. His most elaborate arguments, though not comparable in elegance with those of his chief opponent, Lord Campbell—which in comprehensive outline, exact logic, felicitous illustration, and harmonious structure, excelled all others I have heard—were delivered in tones so nicely adapted to the minds and ears of the judges, with an earnestness so winning and a confidence so contagious, that they made a judgment on his side not only a necessity but a pleasure."

"The other faculty, to which in combination with his subtlety of understanding the excellence of his advocacy may be attributed, is one more rarely possessed,—and scarcely ever in such association—the entire singleness of a mind equally present in every part of a cause. If the promotion of the interest of the client were an advocate's highest duty, it would be another name for the exactest virtue; and inasmuch as that interest is not, like the objects of moral seal, fixed in character, but liable to frequent change, the faculty of directing the whole power of the understanding to each shifting aspect of the cause in its minutest shadowings, without the guidance of an inflexible law, is far more wonderful, if far less noble, than a singleness of devotion to right. It has an integrity of its own, which bears some affinity to that honesty which Baillie Nichol Jarvie attributes to his Highland kinmen. Such honesty—that is the entire devotion of all the faculties to the object for which it was retained, without the lapse of a moment's vanity or indolence, with unlimited vision and unceasing activity—was Follett's beyond all other advocates of our time. To the presentation of truth, or sophism, as the cause might require, he gave his entire mind with

as perfect an oblivion of self as the most heroic sufferer for principle. The faculty which in Gladstone, the statesman, applied to realities and inspired only by the desire to discover the truth and to clothe it in language, assumes, in the minds of superficial observers, the air of casuistry from the nicety of its distinctions, and the earnest desire of the speaker to present truth in its finest shades—in Follett, the advocate, applied indiscriminately to the development of the species shows of things as of their essences, were all the semblance of sinosity; and, in one sense, deserved it. No fears, no doubts, no scruples shook him. Of the licence which advocacy draws from sympathy with the feelings of those it represents he made full use, with unhesitating power; for his reason, of 'large discourse,' was as pliable as the affections of the most sensitive nature. Nor was he diverted from his aim by any figure or fancy; if he neither exalted his subject by imagination, nor illustrated it by wit, nor softened its details by pathos, he never made it the subject of vain attempts at the exhibition of either. He went into the arena, stripped of all incumbrance, to win, and contended studious only and always, of victory. His presence of mind was not merely the absence of external distraction, nor the capacity of calling up all energies on an emergency, but the continued application of them equally to the duty of each moment. There are few speakers, even of fervid sincerity and zeal, whose thoughts do not frequently run before or beside the moment's purpose; whose wits do not sometimes wander on to some other part of the case than that they are instantly discussing; who do not anticipate some future effect, or dally with some apprehension of future peril, while they should consider only the next word or sentence. This momentary desertion of the exact purpose never occurred to Follett; he fitted the thought to its place, the word to the thought, and allowed the action only to take care of itself, as it always will with an earnest speaker. His, therefore, was rather the artlessness than the art of advocacy—its second nature—justly appreciated by those to whose interests it was devoted; but not fully understood even by the spectator of its exertion; dying with the causes in which it was engaged, and leaving no vestiges except in their success."

#### NANETTE AND HER LOVERS.

*Nanette and her Lovers.* By Talbot Gwynne, Author of "The School for Fathers," "The Life and Death of Silas Barnstarke," &c., &c. Smith, Elder and Co.

"*NANETTE and her Lovers*" is not equal, we think, in power or originality, to Mr. Gwynne's former novels; but his style is as ever, simple and vigorous, and amongst the myriads of novels which oppress us with "fine writing," and heroes and heroines equally unnatural and common-place—that is to say, common to the unnatural type—we greet a pretty truthful story, thus, pleasantly told, with considerable satisfaction. Its epoch is that of the Revolution and the Empire, rather a well-worn theme; but politics and politicians are kept in the back-ground, and the costume and machinery of the fiction are all we borrow from these stirring times. *Nanette*, a village beauty in Normandy, has two lovers; *Antoine*, handsome, gay, clever, and the incarnation of selfishness;—*Arsène*, modest, reserved, too deeply in love to be "amiable," generous, and devoted. Of course her choice falls on *Antoine*; women would appear to be drawn to selfish men by the instinct of their thirst for self-devotion: a woman is never so happy, as our greatest living novelist has remarked, as when she "is sacrificing herself—or somebody else"—to the beloved object! So the curtain rises upon *Nanette* and *Antoine*, a betrothed pair.

The story is a very simple one. She loves him with her whole heart, soul, and strength; and he loves her—a little. On the eve of their marriage, the revolution sweeps over the quiet village; the good curé is murdered on the altar steps—priests, worship, religion, are "abolished." The two young men are drawn in the conscription; *Antoine* wishes *Nanette* to marry him "by civil contract" before his departure, but she, as fair and pious an Alice as ever "quittait la Normandie," refuses, and they part, trusting in the future. From that parting, the death-struggle of poor *Nanette*'s love begins, a long and painful one. Her faithless lover soon learns to rejoice in his freedom, plunges into all the dissipations incident to his new life, rises higher and higher in the service, becomes harder and colder, and more and more debased, and by the time he has won his epaulettes, has so completely wounded the love, and roused the pride of his betrothed, that she releases him from his engagement. It took no less a time to open her eyes, eyes close sealed by love and trust; and in this "weary awakening" consists the story, very sweetly told. Then, when she is free and comfortless, her former lover *Arsène* pleads his long and faithful attachment, an attachment she has learnt by suffering to understand and value. They are married, and the tale is not suffered to lack dramatic completeness, for the wretched *Antoine*, after having known wealth and position, falls by the weight of a base nature from one degradation to a lower still, and dies a miserable unknown outcast, in the barn where he has received a shelter from his former betrothed bride and her husband.

The story has taken longer in telling than we intended. We will not main the interest of a scene or dialogue by partial extracts; but will conclude with a graphic little sketch of the costume of an "exquisite" under the Republic.

"He wore a short bright green cloth frock-coat, with side-pockets. The lapels of this garment measured nearly three feet from point to point; sticking out beyond *Mucius*'s thin little arms. His waistcoat was white and flowered; turned back like the coat, though with smaller lapels. Beneath this waistcoat was another of glaring colours. A large gold brooch, in shape like a crescent and in size like a five-franc piece, decked the breast of his shirt. The citizen's black hair was very long and wild;

" Floating free as mountain breezes."

It hung down to his shoulders, hiding a great part of his visage, the lower part of which was eclipsed by an immense cravat with a large bow; which cravat was pulled up to *Mucius*'s nether lip. The collar of his coat mounted to his ears, and then fell over again to his shoulders; so that what with hair, neckcloth, collar, and a cocked hat decked with a tri-coloured cockade, and perched over his nose, very little was to be seen of his countenance, except his huge unshaven eyes, vacantly staring. Even one of these was hidden from time to time by a caricature-looking quizzing-glass, through which *Mucius* attempted to stare people down. On his spare legs appeared a pair of primrose breeches, and speckled silk stockings; a large knot of ribands hung from each knee half-way down the leg. Buckles had disappeared both from feet and knees; wherefore *Dardillo*'s long quartered and very pointed shoes were fastened by strings. He wore his coat-cuffs turned up; and carried a very short, thick stick, covered with knotty roughnesses: a species of bludgeon.

"This was the costume brought in by the 'patriots,' to supersede the courtly, aristocratic dress of the 'ci-devants.'

## THE LONDON PULPIT.

*The London Pulpit.* By James Ewing Ritchie.

Simpkin and Marshall.

A good book might be written on this subject, but we are sorry to say the present author has not achieved that desirable entity. It is rather astonishing that he has not done so; for he has a fair knowledge of London congregations and London preachers, and he has a genuine reverence for pulpit eloquence—the spoken word of piety—in any or in no sect. From Dr. Dale and Mr. Maurice, through various forms of dissent, down (or up) to Johannes Ronge, the most distinguished London preachers are described and criticised. The writer's mind throughout seems to oscillate between a sense of the funny and a sense of the Infinite, and to be without the faculty of expressing either. It is not possible to joke more heavily or more inopportune than our author; or to give an air of insincerity to real religious feeling more completely than he has done to his own. Such a man cannot be a good critic; but he gives congregational opinions impartially. Mr. Montgomery and Dr. Cumming are, of course, facetiously dealt with; every small critic in these days throws stones at those recognised humbugs. But being recognised as humbugs by thinking people out of their own congregations, there is no necessity for wasting words upon them. Of the latter Boanerges, our author (who is ever ready to say the good he knows of a preacher) might have told what he has told of Dr. Dale, viz.: that he is active and charitable among the poor—giving and causing others to give time and money to help those who want help, “irrespective of the religious sect of the recipient.”

The different chapters of this book appeared originally as articles in the *Weekly News*. The nature of the subject will give it a certain amount of popularity, but it is without literary merit, and therefore cannot live long.

## BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

*The Statistical Companion for 1854.* By T. C. Banfield, Esq. Longman, Brown, Green, and Longman.*The Present State of Morocco: a Chapter of Mussulman Civilisation.* By Xavier Durieu. (The Traveller's Library.) Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.*Mary Morton; or the Advantages of the Savings' Bank.* Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.*The Castilian, an Historical Tragedy.* By T. N. Talfourd. Edward Moxon.*The one Primal Language, traced experimentally through Ancient Inscriptions.* By the Rev. Charles Forster, B.D. Richard Bentley.*Julie: or Love and Duty.* By Emilie Flygare Carlén. Richard Bentley.*Edenor: a Dramatic Poem.* By S. H. Bradbury. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.*The Nations of Russia and Turkey, and their Destiny.* By Ivan Golovin. Trübner and Co.*The Life of Mrs. Sherwood.* Edited by her daughter, Sophia Kelly. Darton and Co.*Zeno, a Tale of the Italian War.* By James D. Horrocks. John Chapman.*Russia as it is: its Court, its Government, and its People.* By John Reynell Morell. George Routledge and Co.*The Lamplighter.* George Routledge and Co.*The Lancashire Witches.* George Routledge and Co.*Critical and Historical Essays.* By the Right Hon. Thomas Babington Macaulay, M.P. Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.*The Chemistry of Common Life.* W. Blackwood and Sons.*Household Medicine.* W. S. Orr and Co.*Counterparts; or, The Cross of Love.* By the Author of “Charles Auechster.” 3 vols. Smith, Elder, and Co.*A Volunteer's Scramble through Scinde, the Punjab, Hindostan, and the Himalayan Mountains.* By Hugo James. 2 vols. W. Thacker and Co.*Night and the Soul. A Dramatic Poem.* By J. Stanyan Bigg. Groombridge and Co.*The Ballad of Babe Christabel.* Third Edition. By Gerald Massey. David Bogue.*Angelo. A Romance of Modern Rome.* 2 vols. Richard Bentley.*The English Cyclopaedia. A New Dictionary of Universal Knowledge.* Conducted by Charles Knight. Part XII. Bradbury and Evans.*Poetical Works of John Dryden. (The Annotated Edition of the English Poets.)* Edited by Robert Bell. Vol. III. John W. Parker and Son.*Collected Edition of the Writings of Douglas Jerrold. (Plays.)* Part XLII. Punch Office.*The Newcomes. Memoirs of a most Respectable Family.* Edited by Arthur Pendronne, Esq. No. VIII. Bradbury and Evans.*The National Miscellany.* Office, 1, Exeter-street.*Chamber's Journal of Popular Literature, Science, and Art.* Part IV.*Household Narrative of Current Events.* W. and R. Chambers.*Over-Legislation.* By Herbert Spencer. (Chapman's Library for the People.)*A Defence of Religion.* By H. W. Crosskey. (Chapman's Library for the People.) John Chapman.*Catholic Union. Essays towards a Church of the Future, as the Organisation of Philanthropy.* By F. W. Newman.*The Glasgow University Album for 1854.* Edited by the Students. John Chapman.*Jack and the Tanner of Wymondham.* By the Author of “Mary Powell.” Richard Griffin and Co.*The Cardinal's Daughter.* By R. M. Daniels. (The Parlour Library.) Arthur Hall, Virtue, and Co.*Beauchamp.* By G. P. R. James. (The Parlour Library.) T. Hodgson.*Nicholas I., Emperor and Autocrat of All the Russias.* By the Rev. Henry Christmas, M.A. T. Hodgson.*The Worthies of the Working Classes, and their Friends.* By S. Bannister, M.A. J. F. Shaw.*The Land We Live In. Part II.* T. C. Newby.*The Art Journal.* W. S. Orr and Co.*Hogg's Instructor.* George Virtue and Co.*The Illustrated London Magazine.* James Hogg.*Bentley's Monthly Review.* Piper, Stephenson, and Spence.*The Northern Tribune.* Piper, Stephenson, and Spence.*The Prospective Review.* Holyoake and Co.*John Chapman.*

## The Arts.

## THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

## FIRST NOTICE.

The influence of the war does not yet show itself on the walls of the Royal Academy. Nature, as it is there reflected, is tranquil to a degree of stillness, which is as little mere self-possession—strength in repose, as the constrained and mincing manners of English society are the manners of quiet after-action. Art must reflect nature, but only as it is felt by the artist; and the artist can only feel according to his condition and training. He cannot paint that which he cannot enter into; and if he cannot undergo something of the emotions which present the great types of human action and feeling, he cannot reproduce them on the canvas. The weariness of English society re-appears on this painted mirror. Those things which are still most alive amongst us have also their most vigorous life here. The notion of battle is still the official idea of Mr. Jones, R.A., the librarian, who has taken the battle-field for his department, and supplies this year the “Battle of Hyderabad.” We should have action enough here, and it comes early in the series. The catalogue tells us that there is the Poonah Irregular Horse in green uniform; that there are parties of the Twenty-second led by Major George, making their way over nullahs and ramparts; there is Lieutenant Smith mortally wounded; and Trumpeter M'Phelan taking a standard from a Belooch: with more stirring incidents of the same kind. And accordingly, on reference to the picture, it is easy to identify the Poonah Irregular Horse, Trumpeter M'Phelan of the Twenty-second galloping over the nullahs. The figures are in the attitudes appropriate to their purpose. But it is a diagram, less living even than the tableau of a theatre. Infinitely more grip of the task in hand, more “stir of soul,” more action in short, and even passion, is displayed in Johnstone's “Tyndale translating the Bible into English.” The left hand keeps watch upon the place, the countenance intent upon the original, the right hand ready to fasten down the idea, the whole figure knit to its purpose, although well settled in the scribe's attitude. But in this country we do understand something of the struggle over the desk; we see and feel the action and the passion that go on over the dry wood; and nature—as we distort it—appears well enough upon the canvas.

There are, indeed, other passions that survive amongst us, and Stone has the old, old tale—that tale as it is often told. A youth, comely, and after the artist's own type, is whispering his tale into the ear of a blushing girl, who looks singularly pleased. It is a pretty pair, but yet we have a conviction that the story is often told in a much more impressive manner. Perhaps his couple are too young to typify the passion in its strongest form. It looks more like a fancy, which does not move them deeply; neither of them looks even serious in face;

“Nor grow they pale, as mortal lovers do.”

There is infinitely more true passion in Hunt's “Conscience Awakened,” and here again the vice of English society tells. An inane animal or a well-conditioned gentleman, who might be a blonde guardsman by his cut, has had a young girl sitting on his knee, and has been singing to her, “Off is the stilly night.” Near them, in the well-furnished drawing-room, is a bird out of its cage nearly caught by a cat. The young guardsman is lolling back in his chair with some laughing cajolery to the girl, whose back is towards him, as she has risen from her seat; her hands are clenched together, and her countenance is convulsed with the agonised sense of her danger, which can be well understood, looking at the low character of the beast of prey to whom she has nearly fallen. So, the best piece of true passion that we get out of the Academy exhibition, is taken from the depraved side of society, as if it were only there that nature is suffered to exist in its full force. What an entanglement of ideas does the picture suggest!

Life, in the sense of vegetative existence, abounds in Frith's view of “Life at the Sea-side.” A crowded beach, with the heterogeneous gathering that can alone be collected there, as it might be viewed from a passing boat. The old gentleman sweeping the sea with his telescope, the genteel child dabbling with its ankles in the water, the moustached young buck lounging in sultry ease, looking with vacant eye upon the waves, and half listening to the women near him, the fat old lady surveying the prospect, the child shrinking from the bathing-woman, the belles, the beaux, the *savants*, the tradesmen, the sailors, all the oddities and commonplaces of society brought into one view—without the deep moral of Hogarth or the caricature of Buss; in short, with nothing more than the plain transcript of life as it is, which Dickens gives in pen-and-ink. The spectators crowded round this picture as they would round a looking-glass, and are charmed to recognise life as they know it. Such is life in England—and at the Royal Academy. There is, indeed, an attempt to rise to history, and the artist strives to effect his purpose by an established process. Numbers of figures are collected together and composed into something of symmetry—one side balancing the other. Portions of the figures are shown naked, or nude, as it is called, and the muscles are strongly defined. Much antiquarian furniture is collected from the curiosity-shop; the whole is finished with great force, and a subject is chosen.

This year Mr. Macrise gives us the "Marriage of Strongbow on the field of battle with Eva, the daughter of the conquered King of Leinster," and the picture is eminently characteristic of the painter. Figures are distributed about in violent attitudes. While the hands of the couple are joined, trumpeters are braying to the world, bridesmaids are marching to the spot, a group of mourners are defiling off from the back of the bridegroom, dead bodies lie heaped around the bridal pair, conquered Gaels are kneeling about, a bereaved mother is crying aloud in outstretched agony, and the whole is varied with great contrasts of costume and colour, garlands, golden robes, crowns, sable mourning, weapons, armour, naked limbs, fair girls, dark-faced warriors, a deliberate aggregation of spirited groups which appear to have no connexion with the shop next door. All this is painted in deep-toned or strong colours, after Macrise's fashion—which is after the fashion of the paper-stainers. Composition there is little, and there is this startling

peculiarity, that the accessories are more pronounced than the main subject or figures. The countenance of Strongbow is subdued in shade, while the helmet or shoulder-knot of a common soldier dazzles the sight. The happy pair stand in front of an arch, which looks as if it might lead to a well. Above is a retinue tailing off on each side and forming a pair of horns, converging at the tips. All this background is painted in a totally different style, something like water-colour on rough paper, so that the foreground part of the picture looks as if it were a different work altogether, painted in different pigments, the figures on a different scale, and the whole cut out and pasted upon the larger and feebler picture which forms the background. Exertion here there is plenty where it is not wanted. For it was a bridal at which the gaiety would be checked by mournfulness and despondency. But to be historical Mr. Macrise thinks it necessary to be loud.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

## BIRTHS.

DAWSON.—April 25, at 20, South-street, Park-lane, the Hon. Mrs. Vesey Dawson: a son.  
EDENBOROUGH.—April 24, at Enfield, the wife of Captain Edenborough: a daughter.  
KENNEDY.—May 1st, at 59, Eaton-square, the Lady Gilbert Kennedy: a son.  
LURGAN.—April 30th, at Harcourt-street, Dublin, the Lady Lurgan: a daughter.  
METHUEN.—April 30, at Corsham-court, the Lady Methuen: a son.

## MARRIAGES.

CAMPBELL—CARROL.—April 26, at Queenstown, Henry Jervyn Montgomery Campbell, Lieutenant Royal Artillery, to Louisa Sydney, daughter of Rear-Admiral Sir William Fairbrother Carroll, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief on the Irish station.  
GERALD—WARNER.—April 27, at Bangor Cathedral, Sir John Judain-Pita Gerald, of Lisheen, Bart., to Margaret, widow of the late Samuel Banks, Esq., of New Ferry, Cheshire, and daughter of the late William Warner, Esq., of Kitwell, Worcestershire.  
WHARTON—COOPER.—May 2, at the parish church, Hemel Hempstead, the Reverend James Charles Wharton, vicar of Gidling, near Richmond, Yorkshire, to Elizabeth Harriet Astley, eldest daughter of Sir Astley Paston Cooper, of Gadebridge, Herts, Bart.

## DEATHS.

BRAND.—May 2, at Chesterfield-street, May-fair, the Hon. Gertrude Brand, aged eighty-two.  
CAMPBELL.—April 26, at Nice, William Johnson Campbell, Esq., third son of the late Lieutenant-General Colin Campbell, Lieutenant-Governor of Gibraltar.  
PICKERING.—April 27, at Turnham-green, Mr. William Pickering, aged fifty-eight, bookseller and publisher, late of 177, Piccadilly, after 13 months' severe illness. He was well known and most deservedly esteemed and respected by the trade and literary men throughout Europe and America.  
TENNANT.—March 6, at Lahore, Brigadier-General Sir James Tennant, H.E.I.C. Artillery, Bengal.

## Commercial Affairs.

## MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, May 5, 1854.

As the week has advanced, the Funds have been drooping. The leading article in the *Times* this morning showed that, if one has a war under a Coalition Ministry—a Ministry driven to war by extremity—that they will make an all-enduring public pay for their dislike of receiving a kicking without resenting it. This fulminating article has sent the Funds down one quarter per cent. The Chancellor's Exchequer Bills are being gradually taken up. The series (A), about two millions, have all been taken; but the quantity of stock is too small and insignificant to make what is termed in the Stock Exchange "a market." The meeting in the Bank parlour yesterday must have been unusually interesting, if we may judge by its unusually protracted sitting. It is said that the question being put, as to whether the rate of discount should not be raised to six per cent., it was only decided by a majority of one that it should be delayed for one week, so as not to embarrass the financial schemes of the Government. We shall hear of a loan before the end of June, the amount of which, we calculate, will rather astonish the gentlemen who have been talking confidently of "finishing the business in six weeks." Before August we shall live to see Consols at 84, if not lower; and that, notwithstanding the "Bear" party, now growing to a colossal magnitude. Let the real sellers—the "old women of England"—begin; and with a tightening money-market the "Bear" party will be safe enough.

Russian and Dutch stock has not been in active demand during the week. Russian Fives are still firm at 92, 94. As to Railway shares, there is but very little dealing in. French shares, particularly Strasburg and Paris, are very firm. Mines much neglected.

The markets close at four o'clock rather firmer. Consols, 87, 87.

Consols, 87, 87; Caledonian, 52, 53; Chester and Holyhead, 13, 14; Eastern Counties, 12, 12; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 53, 55; Great Western, 72, 72; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 59, 59; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 97, 98; London and North Western, 95, 95; London and South Western, 74, 77; North Staffordshire, 7, 6; Midland, 40, 40; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 27, 29; Scotch Central, 33, 36; South Eastern, 58, 58; South Wales, 34, 35; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 64, 65; York and North Midland, 45, 46; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 41, 31; ex in. East Indian, 14, 2 pm.; Luxembourg, 44, 5; Ditto (Railway), 24, 3; Ditto, Pref., 2, 14; Madras, 2, 3 dis.; Namur and Liege (with int.), 61, 7; Northern of France, 24, 25; Paris and Lyons, 12, 12 pm.; Paris and Orleans, 41, 43; Paris and Rouen, 33, 35; Paris and Strasbourg, 24, 26; Saarbruck and Muese, 72, 81; West Flanders, 3, 4; Western of France, 14, 24 pm. x. d.; Aguia Fries, 18, 18; Anglo-Californians, 4 dis., 4 pm.; Brazil Imperial, 4, 5; St. John Del Rey, 29, 31; Great Nugget Vein, 4, 1; Limerick, 10, 11; Nouveau Monde, 4, 2; Quartz Rock, 4, 4 x. n.; United Mexican, 22, 24; Wallers, 6, 8; Australia Bank, 72, 74; Oriental Bank, 42, 44; South Australias

Bank, 36, 38; Union of Australia, 66, 68; Australian Agricultural, 37, 38; Crystal Palace, 64, 62; North British Australasian, 2, 1; Scottish Australian Investment, 21, 24; South Australian Land, 34, 36.

## CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening, May 5.

LOCAL TRADE.—The supplies of Wheat and Flour since Monday are very large; millers consequently act with extreme reserve, and sales cannot be made without submitting to a reduction of 2s. per quarter; to this holders are not generally disposed to submit, and there is consequently very little business doing. With a good supply of Oats there is a slow trade at former rates. The supply of Barley is more than sufficient for the demand, and Monday's rates are barely supported.

F. O. B.—The late business in the Baltic has not been followed up this week. At Koningsburg 50 to 60 lb. red Wheat 6s. 6d., 60 lb. high mixed 6s., 6s. 6d., freight 3s. 3d. to 3s. 9d. to East Coast; 3s. to 34 lb. Oats, 22s., 20s. o. b.

FLOATING TRADE.—Since this day week the arrivals of the coast have amounted to 46 cargoes in all, of which 29 are Wheat and 11 Maize. It appears, that for the present both merchants and millers throughout the country act about as fully stocked with Wheat as they care to be in the existing condition of the market. The consequence is, but a small business has been done in cargoes during the past week. On the other hand, holders have remained firm, and rather than give way in prices, even to a moderate extent, have preferred to consign their cargoes. The sales made have therefore been at last week's rates, viz., 6s. to 6s. 6d. for Odessa Ghiorki, 6s. to 7s. for Tananro Ghiorki, 7s. 6d. Borsodski, 5s. 6d.; 4s. is generally refused for the latter, although there are several cargoes for sale off the coast. Other qualities remain precisely the same as last week, and there are some of all descriptions to be had of convenient market-report shorter supplies of Wheat from the farmers—the markets have, however, continued dull. In Ireland there is no giving way in price. In the French markets the downward movement is checked, and in many of the country markets a slight advance has taken place.

Maize remains very dull, and 38s. to 39s. is the value of Mazagan to-day. There are some cargoes off the coast which will be consigned rather than submit to these low prices.

Beans and Barley are little inquired for: the latter has brought 29s. for Salonica arrived.

## BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

## (CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	202	204	204	204	205	205
3 per Cent. Red.....	86	86	86	86	86	86
per Cent. Con. An.....	87	88	87	87	87	87
Consols for Account.....	87	87	87	87	87	87
34 per Cent. 5 per Cents.....	87	88	87	87	87	87
Long Annex 1860.....	411-16	11-16	44	44	44	44
India Stock.....	235	235	5 d.	5 d.	15 d.	
Ditto Bonds, £1000.....	5 d.	5 d.	14 d.	13 d.	2 d.	
Ditto, under £1000.....	2 p.	2 p.	2 p.	2 p.		
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	2 p.	2 p.	2 p.	2 p.		
Ditto, £500.....	2 p.	2 p.	2 p.	2 p.		
Ditto, Small.....	2 p.	3 p.	2 p.	1 p.		

## FOREIGN FUNDS.

(LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.)

Brazilian Bonds.....	96	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cent 1822.....	93
Buenos Ayres 6 per Cents. 54	54	Russian 44 per Cents.....	80
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	...	Spanish 3 p. Ct. New Def. 178	178
Danish 5 per Cents.....	...	Spanish Committee Cert.	...
Ecuador Bonds.....	...	of Coup. not fun. ....	31
Mexican 3 per Cts. for Acc. April 28.....	234	Venezuela 34 per Cents. ....	...
Portuguese 4 per Cents. 37	37	Belgian 44 per Cents. ....	573
Portuguese 3 p. Cents. 40	40	Dutch 24 per Cents. ....	573
		Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif. 85	85

## ROYAL OPERA—DRURY-LANE.

LAST nights of NORMA, DER FREISCHUTZ, and LA SONNAMBULA.

On Monday (last time), Bellini's NORMA. Norma, Madame Caradori.

Tuesday (last time), Weber's DER FREISCHUTZ Caspar, Herr Formes; Agatha, Madame Caradori.

On Wednesday and Friday (last times),

LA SONNAMBULA. Amina, Mdlle. Agnes Bury.

Thursdays and Saturdays (first times), Beethoven's FIDELIO.

Leonora, Madame Caradori; and Bocco, Herr Formes.

To conclude each evening with a BALLET DIVERTIMENTO.

Conductors, Herr Lindpaintner and Herr Anschuez.

Gallery, 1s.; Pit, 2s.; Upper Boxes, 3s.; First Circle 4s.; Dress Circle, 5s.; Stalls, 7s.; Private Boxes, One, Two, Three, and Four Guineas each; may be had at the Box-office, and Private Boxes and Stalls of Messrs. Leader and Cook, 63, New Bond-street, corner of Brook-street.

## ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. ALFRED WIGAN.

On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, will be presented a Comedietta, called

## THE HAPPIEST DAY OF MY LIFE.

Principal Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, H. W. White, Leslie, Vincent, Frank, Rivers, Mrs. Chatterley, Miss P. Horton, and Miss Marston.

After which,

## TO OBLIGE BENSON.

Characters by Messrs. Emery, F. Robson, Leslie, Mrs. Stirling, and Miss Wyndham.

To conclude with

## THE WANDERING MINSTREL.

Jem Baggs.....Mr. F. Robson.

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the Comedietta of

## FIGHTING BY PROXY.

Principal Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, H. W. White, Leslie, Vincent, Frank, and Miss Stevens.

After which,

## THE HAPPIEST DAY OF MY LIFE.

To conclude with

## TO OBLIGE BENSON.

COLOGNE CHORAL UNION.—DER KOLNER MANNER GESANG VEREIN.—MONDAY Next, Hanover-square Rooms.—Mr. MITCHELL respectfully announces that the above distinguished Society will give a Second Series of SIX MORNING CONCERTS at the Hanover-square Rooms, which are fixed to take place on the following days:—Monday next, May 8; Wednesday, May 10; Friday, May 12; Monday, May 15; Wednesday, May 17; and Friday, May 19. Director, Herr FRANZ WEBER. The Concerts will be arranged as last year—commencing at Half-past Three and terminating about Five o'clock. The only EVENING CONCERTS which can be given during the short engagement of this distinguished Society, will take place on Saturday Evening, May 13, and Saturday Evening, May 20; commencing at Half-past Eight o'clock.

Reserved Seats 10s. 6d.; admission to the body of the Room, Five Shillings; which may be had at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

MR. AGUILAR respectfully announces that his ORCHESTRAL CONCERT will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS on Thursday Morning, May 11, commencing at Half-past Two o'clock. Vocalists, Madame Amélie, Mdlle. Sedlatzék (from Vienna), Miss Messent, Herr Reichart, and Herr Formes; violin, Herr Ernst; piano-forte, Mr. Aguilar. Accompanist, Mr. Richard Richards. The London Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Frank Mori, will perform, among other pieces, Mr. Aguilar's concert overture "Alpheus," his new symphony, and the overture to his MS. opera—Tickets, 7s.; reserved seats, 10s. 6d.; to all the principal music-publishers, and of Mr. Aguilar, 68, Upper Norton-street, Portland-road.

DR. KAHN'S CELEBRATED MUSEUM is NOW OPEN in the spacious premises known as the SALLE ROBIN, 232, Piccadilly. For gentlemen from 11 till 5, and from 7 till 10 daily. Lectures at 12, 2, 4, and half-past 7, by Dr. Leach. On Wednesday and Friday, a portion of the Museum is open for ladies only, from 2 till 5. Gentlemen, however, are still admitted on those days from 11 to 2, and from 7 till 10. Lectures given to ladies by Mrs. Leach. Admission, 1s.

COLOSSEUM, Regent's park.—Admission, 1s.—The original PANORAMA of LONDON by DAY is exhibited daily from Half-past Ten till Five. The extraordinary PANORAMA of LONDON by NIGHT every evening from Seven till Ten. Music from Two till Five, and during the evening.

CYCLORAMA, Albany-street, NOW OPEN, with a magnificent PANORAMA of NAPLES, exhibiting the great Eruption of Vesuvius and Destruction of Pompeii, A.D. 79, with the present state of the ruined city. These views have been long in preparation, and will be exhibited with all the resources of this vast establishment. Exhibited daily at Three, evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; reserved seats, 2s.

LITERARY INSTITUTE, JOHN-STREET, FITZROY-SQUARE.—On SUNDAY, May 14th, the ANNUAL TEA PARTY, in celebration of the Birth of ROBERT OWEN, will be held.

Tea will commence at six o'clock, positively. Tickets, 9d. each. Admission after Tea, hall 2d., gallery 3d.

JOHN B. GOUGH will deliver ORATIONS ON TEMPERANCE as follows:—

TUESDAY, May 9, EXETER-HALL.

WEDNESDAY, " 10, "

THURSDAY, " 11, "

Doors open each Evening at Seven; to commence at Eight o'clock.

Tickets to each Meeting 9d. each; Reserved Seats, 1s.; may be obtained at the office of the London Temperance League, 337, Strand; and at the Hall on the evening of the meetings.

W. TWEEDIE, JOHN PHILLIPS, } Hon. Secs.  
London Temperance League, 337, Strand.

**TO ALL BAD WRITERS.**—Mr. T. H. CARESTAIRES continues to give LESSONS to Ladies and Gentlemen in his improved METHOD OF WRITING, which enables those who take advantage of it to acquire as great a degree of freedom and facility as can be desired. Prospects of terms, &c., may be had at 81, Lombard-street, City.

**FUTVOYE'S WEDDING and BIRTH-DAY PRESENTS.**—Comprising every description of English and foreign fancy goods, also gold and silver jewellery, clocks, watches, gold chains, dressing and writing cases, work boxes, leather goods, &c. Futvoye's 4/- 4s. gold watches, four holes, jewelled horizontal escapement, warranted. Futvoye's 3/- 3s. ladies' rosewood dressing cases with jewel drawers, and solid silver top bottles; Futvoye's paper maché articles of surpassing beauty; an unlimited assortment of bronzes, china, glass, alabaster, and articles of bijouterie and verin.

Illustrated catalogues sent on application.

FUTVOYE, 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

**ALLSOPP'S PALE or BITTER ALE.**—Messrs. S. ALLSOPP and SONS beg to inform the TRADE that they are now registering orders for the March Brewings of their PALE ALE in casks of 18 Gallons and upwards, at the BREWERY, Burton-on-Trent; and at the undermentioned Branch Establishments:

London, at 61, King William-street, City; Liverpool, at Cook-street; Manchester, at Ducie-place; Dudley, at the Burnt Tree; Glasgow, at 115, St. Vincent-street; Dublin, at 1, Crampton-quay; Birmingham, at Market Hall; South Wales, at 12, King-street, Bristol.

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By order,

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